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June 7th, 1979 ★ Volume 14, Number 23 ★ *14th Year of Publishing* ★ FIFTY-CENTS

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Volume 14, Number 23 **June 7th, 1979**

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COMING NEXT WEEK:

SEA BASS

About the Cover—

Al Ristori adds a jig-caught, Montauk blue to the box. Bluefish have put in an appearance around most of Long Island in recent weeks and it won't be long before some solid fishing develops.

Richard Reina — PUBLISHER

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Al Ristori — CONSERVATION EDITOR

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The LONG ISLAND FISHERMAN is published weekly, except for two weeks in December, by the L.I.F. Publishing Corporation, L.I.F. Building, Bridge St., P.O. Box 1994, Sag Harbor, New York 11963. Telephone: (516) 725-4200. Second Class Postage is paid at Sag Harbor, N.Y. $.50 cents per copy, back issues $.65 per copy. *Subscriptions:* One-Year, 50 Issues—$11; Two-Years, 100 Issues—$19; Three-Years, 150 Issues—$27. Photographs and written contributions must be accompanied by a written request and a self-addressed, stamped envelope. All consideration will be given these requests; however, no responsibility on our part is assumed. Notice of change of address must include both the old and the new addresses. Please allow two weeks for the address change to be made. USPS-588-160

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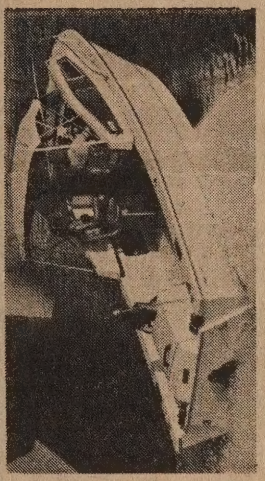

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WORLD PROTEIN AND THE U.S. RESPONSIBILITY

Malthus was an economic philosopher of not just a few years vintage, who proposed a philosophy that was of such greatness and importance that a branch of economics was named after him. The central ideas of that economic philosophy are referred to as **Malthusian Law.**

Now, if Malthus was such a great thinker—and he was—how is it that Twentieth Century man has seen fit to selectively ignore his teachings?

You may be wondering: what relevance does a discussion of Malthus have to fishing? In order to answer that question, we have to reach back and expose some of the history that led to the passage of the 200-Mile Limit legislation and its implementation in 1977.

Although it was merely a ploy of the State Department to divert public support away from the 200-Mile Limit, it was argued through the late 1960s and early 1970s that the people of the United States should not deny peoples of the world access to the fisheries on our Continental Shelf because many peoples of the world were starving and because there was a need for high quality protein for third world nations. In fact, the argument still persists in a slightly different form and that it is, at least in part, why we continue to allow foreign nationals to fish on our Shelves under the permit system.

Is this a valid argument? Does the United States have a responsibility to supply the world with protein? Can new supplies of food—especially protein—solve the world hunger problem?

The argument is not valid and we will explore reasons for this position shortly. We wish to make it clear that we are not saying that there is no world hunger problem, since there obviously is. However, we are saying that we resist the notion that our country can single-handledly solve the problem. Why?

We must turn to our old friend Malthus for the answer. Malthus said that food and sex are necessary to man. In modern terms we refer to trophic dynamics (feeding) and the continuation of species. Malthus also said that populations increase geometrically, while food increases arithmetically. In practical terms, this means that as the food supply doubles, the population will square. Starting with a number four to represent the size of both the population and the food supply at time zero we will end up with a food supply of **eight** and a population of **sixteen!** Thus Malthus proposes, it is never possible to produce enough food to meet the needs of an ever-expanding population. More food will mean more well-fed people, and these people will be healthier. Healthier people will reproduce more successfully and successful reproduction means an increase in the size of the population. The increase in the population quickly outstrips the food supply.

Malthus further recognized that there were natural checks on the size of populations. The **ultimate check** was lack of food. Without adequate food people starve and die. There are also **preventative checks** such as birth control. Finally, there are **positive checks**, such as hard labor, disease, poverty, and war. Thus, we come to a quick conclusion that the United States cannot successfully provide enough food for the world for any extended period of time. Perhaps one could argue that we should worry about the present. However, does the United States have the right to provide food today so that the population will increase and then many more people will starve tomorrow? This is an interesting and complicated question; one deserving of thought.

Does the United States have a responsibility to supply the world with protein? This, too, can be argued from both sides. There are those who say we should be our brother's keeper and there are those who say we are not. Regardless of whether one believes that we have this responsibility or not, how we exercise that responsibility--should we presume we have

it—is of utmost importance. More about that later.

Can new food supplies solve the world hunger problem? Malthus said no and we agree. That is, we agree that handouts, without strings attached, cannot solve the world hunger problem.

The United States, throughout its history, has demonstrated that it is the most altruistic nation that has ever existed on this earth. Never has a nation given so much to so many and asked so little in return. We can be justly proud of our humanitarian activities over the centuries. The time has come to ask for something in return, because it has become our responsibility to do so in a world that is quickly over-populating and a world in which there is such a dichotomy of standards of living. Dare we give away food, technology, and assitance without a price tag?

We think that a price tag is in order! Please understand that we are not trying to set ourselves up as government experts. However, since the government has said to sport and commercial fishermen that we **have** a responsibility to feed the world, we therefore have the right to ask questions. If we are going to foot the world food bill, or any part of it, we have the right to ask how much it will cost!

For example, has the Federal Government demanded that developing countries demonstrate an effective birth control system? Has the Federal Government attempted to work out trade agreements in which we will trade our fish for oil? The answers to these questions are NO! This is regrettable. We are told that there is great famine in West Africa and that the U.S. should help. But do you know that the birth rate in West Africa is FIFTEEN TIMES that of the United States? Then, too, with the price of oil and gasoline skyrocketing and many Americans unable to afford the fuel to heat their homes and operate their automobiles, can we afford not to work out such trade agreements? At the present time our gold flows out to the Arab world and then they buy up large parcels of our industries and cities such as New York, Houston, Chicago. Is this really wise?

We are not monsters. We do not take pleasure in the thought of starving multitudes. We do not take pleasure in pain and suffering. But these are real and valid questions. Malthusian Law tells us that giving food away will NOT, repeat NOT, solve the world hunger problem. It will prolong it and it will result in many more millions of people starving in the years that lie ahead!

Case In Point! World agriculture was in its darkest hours during the early and mid-1960s. So, in 1965 the United States passed Public Law 480 which was a massive food aid program to developing countries. It was thought to be a way to help these countries and at the same time, dispose of surplus food grown in this country. The result was that this further depressed world agriculture for two reasons. First, massive food aid indirectly aided in further population growth and, second, it inhibited the development of agricultural progress in the developing countries. It also raised prices of food at home, creating hardship for many United States citizens. The program was quickly discontinued and was replaced by a technological assistance program to help developing countries enhance their own agricultural programs by the use of high technology. However, experts tell us that highly mechanized agriculture consumes fossil-fuel energy at an alarming rate. In fact, fossil-fuel energy consumption often exceeds by a substantial margin the energy (food) produced on that acre.

Case in Point! The use of fertilizers, pesticides, and machinery have expanded the food supply for people in the Twentieth Century. Thus, after World War II improved technology produced an abundant food supply and prices were low. Result: the world population increased markedly, so that by the mid-1970s there were shortages of such foods as coffee, sugar, beef, and some vegetables even in the United States, and experts tell us that this is only the beginning!

Case in Point! In the early 1940s, the Rockefeller Foundation sponsored a research program in Mexico with the goal of producing improved strains of wheat that were more productive, disease resistant, grow quicker, and resist pests. Sometime after that, a similar project was begun in the Philippines with rice, co-sponsored by the Rockefeller and Ford Foundations. Years later, they succeeded in producing new strains of grain including a strain of rice called IR-8. The introduction of these new varieties of wheat in Southeast Asia, Indonesia, Turkey, Ceylon, India, Pakistan, and The Philippines in the mid-1960s was called the "Green Revolution" because the impact of these strains on agriculture was so dramatic. In fact, grain yields were quickly doubled, and by 1970 forty-four million acres of the new grain strains were planted! No price tags were attached; developing countries were not asked to demonstrate checks on population. In short, the strains of rice and wheat were given away without asking developing nations to do something responsible for the rest of us. We didn't need money, but all of us deserved guarantees that these developing countries would immediately and effectively work

(Continued on page 49.)

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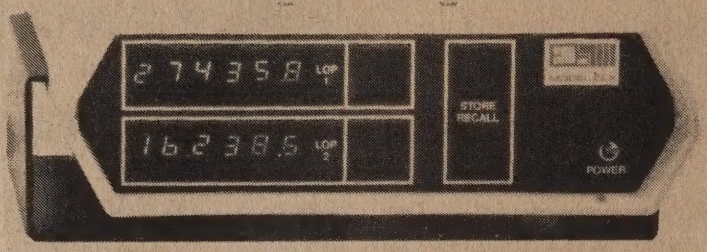

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Sports Aid, Inc., is introducing "Fisherman's Friend," a new product for the fisherman in the form of a first aid kit to be used under emergency conditions for the safe and effective removal of a fishhook from an individual person.

Under normal circumstances when a hook becomes embedded, a doctor is, and should be, employed for removing the hook. Unfortunately, a doctor is not always immediately available and it is under such circumstances that the kit is to be used. Thus, a real need does exist to remove the hook as soon as possible and the wound dressed to avoid any possible infection.

Actually, there is no "easy" way to remove a hook, by whatever means used and especially in the absence of a doctor's service. The "Fisherman's Friend" kit will, in most cases, be of vital assistance. The kit contains instructions and the hook removal device, along with a supply of necessary medical items for dressing the wound. The kit is in a flexible pouch and fits easily into any tackle box. Other minor mishaps which require first aid may also be administered to from the kit.

Information is available from: The Sports Aid Co., 7110 E. 13th St., Indianapolis, IN 46219.

MARINE ELECTRONICS SEMINAR

You are cordially invited to attend this event on June 16, 1979, co-sponsored by the Montauk Captains Association and Griffith Marine Navigation of New Rochelle, N.Y. The program will include lectures, discussion, demonstrations and films on popular brands of marine electronic equipment. On display will be fish finders, depth recorders, UHF and SSB radios; radar, Loran, alarm systems and automatic pilots. Just about everything needed by the modern angler. Experts from the manufacturers will be on hand for instructions and to answer any questions on this wide range of electronic gear.

The seminar will take place in Montauk at the Montauk Community Church, Montauk Highway and will run three to four hours, starting at 7PM.

For further information, contact Captain Frank Maccaro at (516) 929-4881, or Griffith Marine Navigation, (914) 636-4340. Admission is free.

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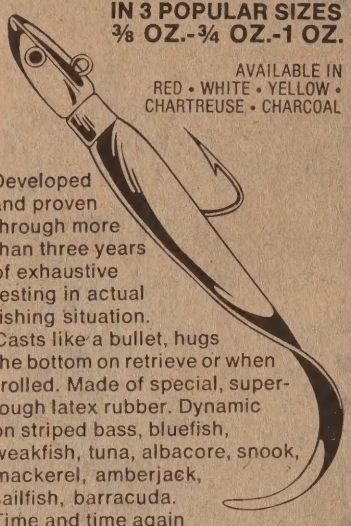

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CLUB NEWS

L.I. SPORTFISHING CLUB

The Long Island Sportfishing Club Championship, sponsored by the Atlantis Anglers and the Eastern Anglers will have its 3rd Tournament of the year for FLUKE on June 30 and July 1. Clubs one year or older may participate.

For more info, contact: Walter from Atlantis 516-223-2443; Gary from Eastern, 516-669-4673; Mark, Atlantis 516-798-3291.

PATCHOGUE FISHING CLUB

The Patchogue Fishing Club held its annual weakfish contest off Heckscher State Park on Sunday, May 20. The four prize winners were: Ray Terman, 11 lb. 10 oz. weakfish; Jimmy Belmontse, 10 lb. 7 oz.; Joel Runkel, 9 lbs. 7 oz., and Mickey Moore, 9 lb. 2 oz.

SURFSIDE 3 TUNA CLUB

Surfside 3 Tuna Club held their annual May Weakfish Tournament on May 27.

This year's winners were: Frank Farrell, 10¼ lbs. - $50; Bill Galanti, 10 lbs. 2 oz. - $25; Frank Farrell, Jr., 9 lbs. 6 oz. - $15.

We would like to thank everyone for their participation to make it another successful tournament. Nice going fellows.

BOATING

SAFE BOATING WEEK OBSERVED

The N.Y. State Young Boater's Safety class, held at the Stewart School in Garden City, graduated on Friday, June 1. This course is required for youngsters between the ages of 10 and 16 who wish to use a motorboat without an adult on board.

One of the 37 youngsters who graduated is 12-yr.-old Moira Egan. Although Moira is much the same as her 36 boat safety classmates, one thing sets her apart. Moira Egan is blind and, therefore, does not plan to skipper a boat. However, according to Tom Shanahan of the Long Island State Park and Recreation Commission's Bureau of Marine and Recreational Vehicles, "Moira is a member of a boating family who spend many of their leisure hours on the water. She and her parents realize that boating safety should be practiced by everyone who goes out

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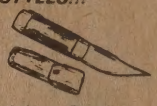

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on a boat—not just the skipper of the boat. Unfortunately," commented Shanahan, "there are too many people out on the water who don't take advantage of the many free boating safety classes that are available."

Commander John Merrit, USN (Ret.), was the instructor for Moira's class and according to him, "The kids in the class were all outstanding students; they were all very cooperative and all interested in boating safety."

USCG FLOTILLA 18-4

On June 10, between the hours of 9AM and Noon, Flotilla 18-4 of the U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary will hold a courtesy motorboat examination at Bofill's Marina on North Sea Road in Southampton.

All boat owners are encouraged to take advantage of this FREE inspection. Outboards may be inspected on a trailer. All others must be in the water.

For more information, call: 516-283-8621.

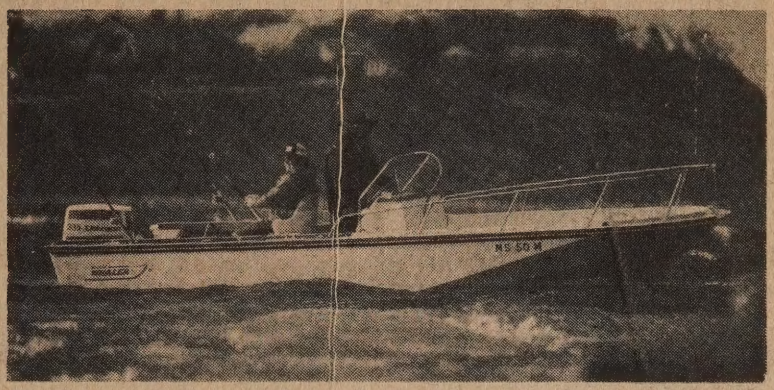
Contests & Tournaments

18th ANNUAL SHINNECOCK SWORDFISH TOURNAMENT

The 18th Annual Shinnecock Swordfish, Marlin and Mako Tournament will be held this year on Saturday, June 30 and Sunday, July 1st. The tournament is considered a classic; one of the major fishing tournaments in the nation. It was founded to develop funds for creating a reef off Shinnecock to enhance fishing in that area. The reef was created with the sinking of the old Shinnecock Railroad Bridge.

To keep the event strictly a sportsmen's contest, cash prizes have been eliminated and trophies will be awarded according to a point system for swordfish, marlin and mako. High point winner will receive in addition to the first place trophy, an 80 lb. rod donated by Altenkirch's Tackle of Hampton Bays and a Penn International 80 purchased by the Club. Entry fee is $100 per boat and up to five anglers may be registered to fish. Entry fee includes two ticket to Saturday and Sunday nights dinners—dockside. Captain's meeting is scheduled for 7:30 p.m., June 29, at Indian Cove Marina, Hampton Bays. IFGA fishing rules will be adhered to. Entry blanks may be obtained at Three Aces Fishing Center, Altenkirch's Tackle Shop and Indian Cove Marina, or by calling 516-288-3900. Deadlines for all entries is 8PM, Sunday, June 24, in order to be listed in the official program and to receive dinner tickets.

NEW! BOSTON WHALER V-22



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NATIONAL SCENE

NEWS & NOTES ON THE WORLD OF FISHING
with Al Ristori

PCB Workshop At Council Meeting

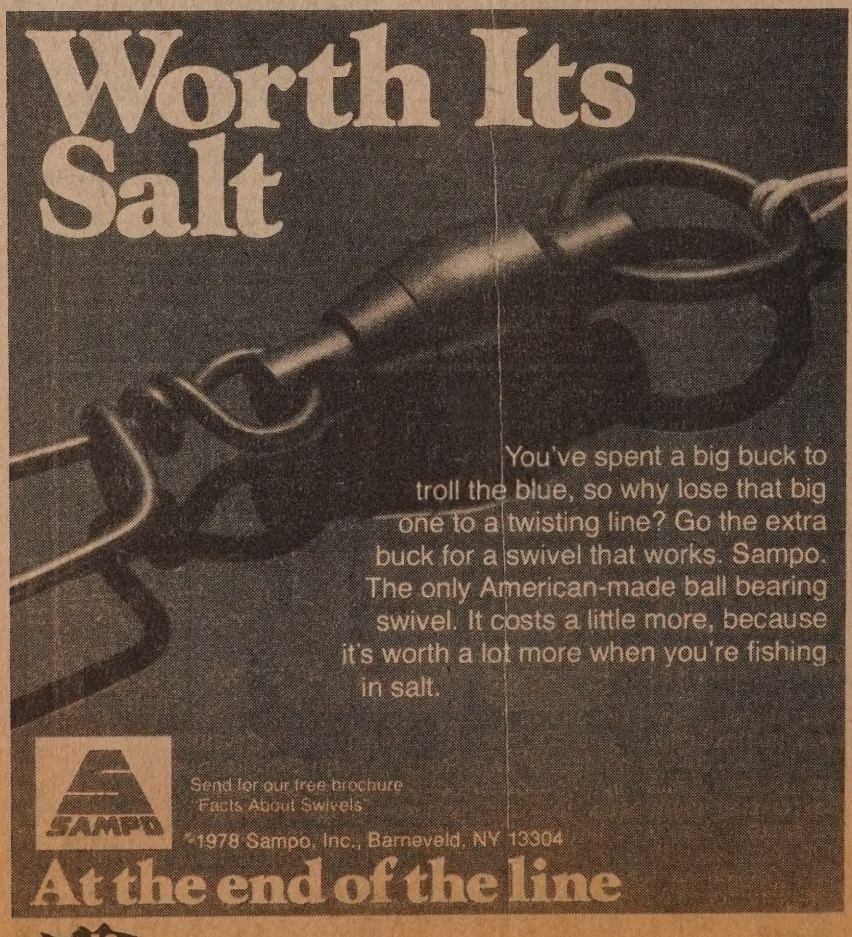
The May meeting of the Mid-Atlantic Fishery Management Council featured a PCB Workshop organized by Nancy Goell, Chairman of the Council committee dealing with pollution. The purpose of the Workshop was to provide detailed information to the Council members about a problem which has had a serious effect on our area, and could have even more far-reaching ramifications if the action level is lowered from the present 5ppm to the proposed 2ppm. Already most Hudson River fisheries are closed due to the high PCB contamination in the resident fish, though it's no secret that gill netters are regularly supplying the market with contaminated striped bass from the river. New York's law is so weakly written that it becomes almost impossible to apprehend a violator operating in broad daylight. When an arrest finally was made recently, the netter was let off with a fine that he can make up in another day's work!

About the only thing that everyone could agree on after the Workshop was the fact that we really don't know anything about the long-term effects of low levels of PCBs on human health. There is no question but that PCBs in very large doses are very harmful. That was proven in Japan in 1968, when five people died and a thousand others were stricken after eating cooking oil contaminated by PCBs. However, that level of contamination was far higher than has ever been found in any fish.

The burning question now is "just what level of PCBs can we live with?" Unfortunately, no one has an authoritative answer to that question. According to John Wessel, head of the PCB program at the FDA, the 5ppm standard set in 1972 was based on a scientific balancing of risks and food needs. Yet there is still no evidence either that 5ppm is safe for human consumption, or that a higher figure would be just as acceptable. Some work has been done at the University of Wisconsin Medical School and the Regional Primate Research Center on PCBs in rhesus monkeys. That research has shown that even levels as low as 5 and 2.5ppm fed to the monkeys on a steady basis can have negative effects. Of course, this information isn't readily transferrable to human beings, and also reflects a steady diet of food with high PBC levels—a situation which isn't very realistic. While there has been no instance of anyone suffering any ill effects from eating fish containing PCBs, the long-term potential danger cannot be ignored.

Fortunately, this particular problem hasn't had too severe an effect in saltwater areas. The Hudson River is heavily contaminated because the GE plant used to discharge PCBs into the river. Yet, sampling of all species found along the Coast hasn't revealed any that average over even the proposed 2ppm. On the other hand, Hudson River stripers are quite high in PCBs and they do provide most of the fishery in the New York Harbor area and western Long Island Sound. According to another Workshop speaker, Dr. Mark Melancon, research has shown that while fish can metabolize PCBs to a slight extent, the rate is very slow—indicating that fish contaminated in the Hudson River will still be contaminated when caught outside the river. Outside of the Hudson, the problem is basically confined to freshwater areas, such as the Great Lakes and Mississippi River.

Where does the PCB problem come from? Polychlorinated biphenyls are chemical compounds similar to DDT and dieldrin. They are fire-resistant and poor conductors of electricity, but relatively good conductors of heat. These qualities made them very useful as coolant insulation fluids in electrical transformers and capacitors. Prior to 1971, they were also used in adhesives, plastics, paints, varnishes, sealants, and carbonless carbon papers. When the sole U.S. producer, Monsanto, recognized the problem in 1970, they restricted use to closed electrical and hydraulic systems in which PCBs could not easily escape into the environment. Production was stopped completely in 1977. However, approximately 1.4 billion pounds of PCBs have been produced in the U.S., and over half has already entered the environment. Furthermore, production of PCBs continues in some foreign countries. Though we're now trying to destroy the remaining identifiable PCBs, they were used in so many ways that millions of pounds will surely continue to leach into the environment over the years.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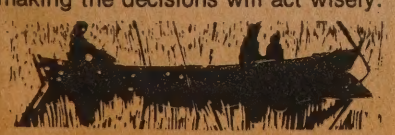
Cynthia Kelly of the EPA, detailed the efforts of that agency to deal with the present uses of PCBs on a rational basis. For instance, it would cost a fortune to replace all the transformers on phone poles that contain PCBs. Since there's little likelihood of leakage from that source, they'll be phased out over a period of time. A shorter phase-out period has been established for the transformers on the underbodies of railroad cars—as these do suffer damage which can result in leaks.

The worst part of this problem is the fact that PCB molecules do not readily break down into other molecules; do not dissolve readily in water; are not destroyed by normal fire temperatures; seek out fatty tissue and, therefore, accumulate in fish and animals; are very slowly eliminated from fatty tissues, and will continue to be released into the environment for twenty years or more! While attacking the problem, we're also going to have to learn to live with it. If you do eat fish that come from areas with high levels of PCBs, proper preparation will result in very minimal exposure. As with mercury, predators tend to accumulate PCBs from prey fish. If the prey is fatty, it is even more likely that the predator will end up with high levels in its own body. The larger, fatter and older the fish, the greater chance of PCBs having collected in its organs, skin and fatty tissue.

Since PCBs are attracted to the fatty tissue, it's advisable to fillet any fish which might be contaminated. Eliminate both the belly flaps and the skin and, most importantly, cut away the dark flesh running along the center line. The remaining white meat will be relatively lean, with a PCB level far below that of the whole fish.

By the time the Workshop was over, we all knew a lot more about the problem, and were even more aware of what we don't know. For instance, there's been no evidence that fish are adversely affected by high levels of PCBs, but there's a good deal of uncertainty about how this might effect reproduction. As previously noted, the question of the effect on human health is still a matter of guesswork. A study of people around Lake Michigan who were heavy eaters of fish with high levels of PCBs has shown no ill effects at all. However, that doesn't address the "possible" long-term effects. In the meantime, the governmental agencies must try to balance the ever-increasing need for high quality protein with risks to health that can't be accurately quantified. There are no simple solutions—and we'll just have to hope that those making the decisions will act wisely.



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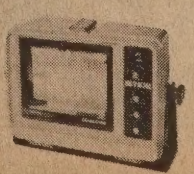

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THE CAPTAIN'S TABLE
...From the Godfather's Cookbook
with Andy Regina

SIMPLE ITALIAN ANTIPASTO

Awhile ago, we took a break during mid-feast, saving you and ourselves for the main holiday course: the meat entree. As we awaited the arrival of the bird, we once again sipped Italian anisette or amoretta, to settle our stomachs while whetting interest in continuing the meal, which also gave our women time to prepare their platters before bringing them in from the kitchen to the dining room. Of course, by this time we couldn't care less how long it took to serve the main course. Italian feasts include a tradition of patient and leisurely dining. So, the men loosen their belt buckles and open the top button of their trousers; the women are less obvious.

Perhaps we've all had too much to drink: Pop is starting to become amorous with Mom (something that only happens when he drinks too much), and Grandpa has already been asleep for awhile. We men sit around the table and swap tales—usually about our own amorous capabilities...a fact that gets loudly derided by the women in the kitchen, who naturally overhear us because by now we are speaking in loud voices, to overcome the racket that the kids are making!

Anyhow, in about a half-hour the women proudly carry in the roasts: stuffed turkey, in keeping with the American tradition; a couple of roast chickens, for Grandpa and whoever else doesn't like turkey; rolled, stuffed shoulder of veal, for Pop and Uncle Vito, who don't care for either turkey or chicken, and a roast beef for all who don't particularly care for turkey, chicken, or roast veal! Along with the various roasts come heaping platters of vegetables such as potatoes, yams (candied and baked), peas and carrots, and broccoli florets. To please Italian palates, there is broccoli-rabe, zucchini, cauliflower, and swiss chard, plus a dish of stringbeans in tomato sauce.

The table groans under this load, accompanied harmoniously by our own groans at the sight of all this abundance, but we slowly decimate each platter, washing it down with yet another gallon of wine—this time a light Rose that was included in the case by mistake. The kids prove smarter than us, and give up hours before we do; the older ones watch some football game or other, and the young ones work off their energy by engaging in a game of tag, running through the rooms unmindful of the shouted threats coming from parents too gorged to get up from the table to carry out those threats.

By now a few more old folks have dropped off to sleep, and are lifted out of their dishes and propped into equally stuffed living room chairs, and the women clear the table, as we men once again have a sip of the sweet stuff—to settle our stomachs while the coffee is being brewed. Even a simple thing like making coffee becomes monumental, because now you must determine who wants black coffee, who wants brown, who needs Sanka because of some special diet, who wants tea, or who doesn't give a damn anymore, "so give me whatever you want." And while we wait, we eat fruit and nuts, to take the edge off some of that sweet stuff that's starting to get to most of us, and we finish off the Rose, since "it's a sin to leave such a little bit in the bottle!"

A procession passes from the kitchen to the dining room, then back into the kitchen again, as the women bring in the coffee. Naturally, Lulu, being the tiniest of the girls, carries in the biggest coffee pot, struggling to make it to the table before the pot falls, and she's followed by Caramela bringing in the pot of black coffee, which is so hot that she burns her hand on it, and spills some coffee on Cousin Albert, which wakes him up in a hurry! With coffee you must have a cordial, so brandy and strega are brought in to accompany the amoretta and anisette, which never left the table, and everyone forgets the sugar, which you need in order to drink the black coffee, which gets liberally laced with anisette also—about a one-to-one ratio is most everyone's norm: one shot of anisette to one demi-tasse cup of black coffee—except Aunt Millie, who likes two or three shots per cup, "because black coffee is so bitter!"

With the coffee and cordials comes the pastry: canole and sfogliatelle from a pastry shop up in The Bronx, miniature assorted pastries from a pastry shop in Harlem, assorted cookies from Little Italy, in lower New York, a couple of homemade pies, a homemade cheesecake, and of course, a pumpkin pie, because it's an American tradition. Each girl gets insulted if you don't taste her offering, and they actually

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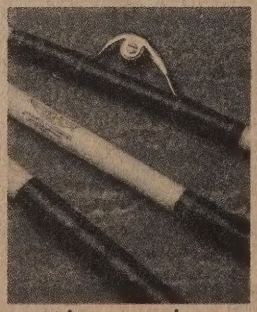

provide tremendous strength in the butt section. To these remarkable Fenglass blanks, Fenwick added a lightweight and virtually indestructible handle.

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beam under the flowery praise heaped upon them by the men, who by now are so looped out of their gourds that they'd praise stale toast, and wouldn't know the difference anyway!

The marathon winds down (about six hours is par for the course), and now we prepare for our own particular tradition: the holiday card game. Italian ethics demand that the men and women be separated for card games, which calls for a lot of friendly kidding as the women clear the kitchen table for their game, leaving the men to their stag game in the dining room. It's always this way, and it works out best because we're too full to move away from the dining table in the first place. And the games are always the same: penny ante, anything goes, wild card games for the girls, and straight poker for the men, who gamble for big stakes—usually five cents.

We get interrupted when the kids run under the table, chasing Aunt Millie's dog; then again when they all come back again, this time with Aunt Millie's dog chasing the kids. When the old folks drop in their places, and the kids start getting hit, it's time to stop—the holiday is over, and we spend a couple of hours sobering people up, bundling kids in warm clothes, and filling the garbage room in the basement with dozens of huge plastic bags full of the remains of our American holiday.

The following week sees us finishing off leftovers, and we swear off repeat performances, which lasts just until the next holiday, when the whole rigamarole is repeated once again—usually always in my house! Just thinking about these eating orgies is enough to turn your mind off food; so today we offer a simple antipasto recipe instead of our regular fish or seafood dish. Prepared either as the prelude to your own orgy or as a simple meal in itself, it involves no cooking whatsoever, so we know all you ladies will welcome it as a change of pace from your regular cooking chores.

The only advice we can offer is to find some Italian deli from which to purchase your cold cuts and cheeses. The merchandise available from supermarkets usually doesn't live up to the discriminating taste buds of those who appreciate the imported offerings of specialty shops—and believe me, there is a difference!

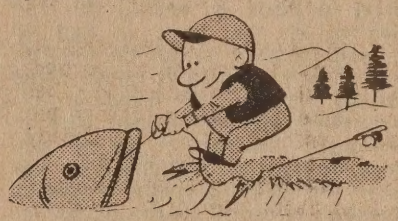
Italian Antipasto

1/2 lb. Prosciutto
1/2 lb. Boiled Ham
1/2 lb. Genoa Salami
1 can black pitted olives
1 can stuffed green olives
1 jar roasted peppers
1 lb. Aurecchio Provolone (chunk)
1 can anchovies (flat)

Arrange salami slices around inside perimeter of platter, leaving center of platter empty. Place 1/2 slice ham atop each slice of salami, 1/2 slice prosciutto atop the ham, a piece of roasted pepper on top of the prosciutto, and a wedge of provolone on top of the pepper.

Place olives in the center of the platter, separating the black olives from the green olives with sections of roasted peppers, and place anchovy fillets on top of the peppers. Fill in the spaces between each stack of cold cuts with alternating sections of roasted peppers and provolone wedges, which will create colorful red and white effect to complement the black and green center.

Serve the antipasto cold, with chunks of Italian bread, small rolls, or bread sticks, which may even be used in place of the peppers and provolone wedges as serving separators. And always serve your wine chilled. Any hearty red goes well here, and you could do no better than an imported, dry Chianti.



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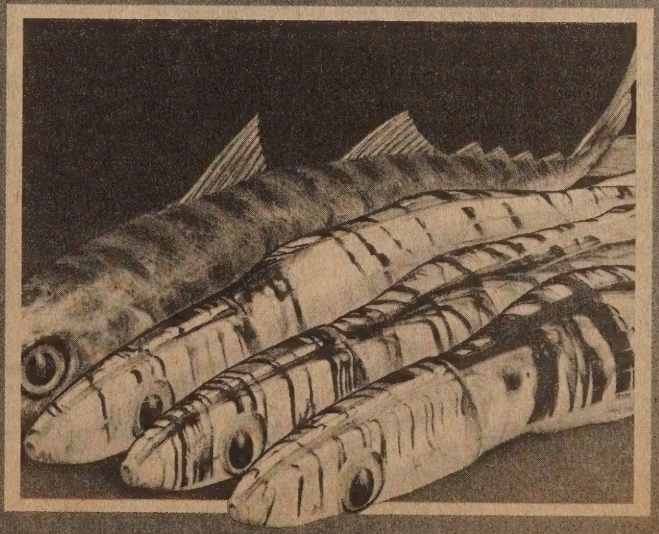

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FISH TALK
with Dr. William A. Muller

WHERE CAN I, & STRIPED BASS ISSUES

WE DON'T KNOW, DO YOU? If there is one thing that can be definitely stated within the boundaries of discussion relative to the striped bass problem, it is that we know very little about many aspects of the life history and ecology of the striped bass, **Morone saxatills**. With that beginning in mind, it becomes very difficult to discuss striped bass management. However, indefinite things are the best grist for the mill of discussion and that may be one reason why everybody is so eager to "make flour."

WHAT'S IN A NAME? Where to begin might be a better question. But, let's start with the name of the fish. Today, many fishermen continue to insist on calling the fish Roccus. At one time, in fact on several occasions in history, the fish was given the scientific genus name **Roccus**. Today, and hopefully forever, we place the striped bass in the genus **Morone**. If we go way back we find out that the bass was given the scientific handle of **Roccus lineatus**, referring to the stripes or lines on the body.

EMOTIONAL! Striped bass evoke a lot of emotion among fishermen who see the fish as the number one glamour inshore species. Thus, there is much philosophy and strong feelings among those who seek to catch—sport and commercial alike. Why? It has a lot to do, in our opinion, with dreams. No, not the kind you have when you're asleep, but the ones that shape your life goals. I bet you thought that we were becoming Freudian psychiatrists there for a moment. The dreams of life or a lifetime are the dreams that drive men to great effort, ambition, anxiety, and frustration and some great rewards. Up here in New England and along the middle Atlantic states, striped bass are just about the only fish of potentially monstrous proportions that a surf fisherman or inshore boat fisherman has a shot at. Thus, it becomes a "dream" to catch the fifty or the sixty. To make matters worse, nature and man often mess up, so that some of us catch more than one fifty or sixty pounder, while others of us never get a one. The injustices of life spur some of us to try harder, and others of us give up. Few of us ever relinquish our dreams—only our efforts to realize the dream fall by the side of the road.

MEASURE BY DATA AND OBSERVATION. Since so little hard scientific data is available on the ecology of striped bass, we must look to what information is available to try to ease our anxieties about the future of the striped bass. A lot depends upon your perspective—as we have been wont to point out before—and your point of view can be very biased. For example, suppose you were a surf fisherman at Cape Cod—would you be easy or difficult to convince about the need for coastal management of the species? Chances are that you'd be difficult to convince, because the Cape has experienced some of its best bass fishing of the century. The Cape Cod angler arguing against bass management would probably be wrong because management of the species along with the management of the coastal marine habitats (the two are, of course, intimately involved with one another) is a high priority task of American society for the future of our nation. Now, if you were a guy who liked to fish with eels or bunker from the slope of the high surf or chase schools of surface feeding bass in the fall, you may have another impression of how good—or should I say bad—the bass fishing has been. One point is perhaps worth making. The great philosophers have told us that nothing is ever either as bad or as good as it appears. Perhaps this is true of the striped bass fishery and the varied results of fishermen up and down the coast may lend some support to this notion. It is likely, that an arithmetic decrease in the size of any stock of fish may produce a geometric decrease in the quality of the fishing for that species. Certainly, data on commercial landings help support this view. Between 1973 and 1978, there has been a steady decline in landings. However, the greatest decrease, about thirty per cent, occurred between 1973 and 1974. Between 1974 and 1975, the decrease was about twenty-five per cent and between 1977 and 1979, the landings were rather stable on the whole. The catch from North Carolina, New York, and Massachusetts actually increased, while modest declines were reported for Virginia, Maryland, New Jersey, and Rhode Island. However, these latter states are not traditionally the biggest contributors to the market. It is possible that some fair year classes in the mid-Seventies from the Hudson River stock has helped to stabilize the fishery.

WHERE CAN I? Juan Cabrera of The Bronx recently wrote to remind us that many fishermen are in the same "boat" when it comes to getting out on the water. "One of the reasons why I subscribed to your magazine is that I am not able to ride a boat because I tend to get seasick more times than I can afford. Therefore, I would like to ask you, if possible, to supply me with the names of various places and directions to get there, so that I can fish from the surf. I am interested in places all over Long Island." It is true that the rising cost of gas, Fiberglas boats, and the increasing threat of theft has made more and more Long Island anglers think about surf, pier, and bank fishing. Before we go through a list of some of the areas that are open to surf fishing, we must pause to remind any would-be surf fisherman that this approach to angling is a very rigorous one that requires more time and energy than boat fishing in many instances—although not all. Let's begin at the end of Long Island, at Montauk Point. This area has long been considered a mecca for surf fishermen. Although fish can be taken at all times throughout the season, prime times are in fall and spring. You can consult any road map for directions to Montauk. It's a straight route and I don't think it is easy to go wrong. Further to the west along the South Shore, there are a number of town beaches and it is possible to fish from these beaches before Memorial Day and after Labor Day. Generally speaking, it is wise to remember to be polite at all times to everyone and to carry some garbage off the beach when you leave, even if it isn't yours. Reason: town officials sometimes get pressure to force non-residents off the beach when tempers and debris run high. All of the State Parks offer surf fishing. You can obtain a permit to fish in the State Parks by going to any one of them (Administrative Office) during working hours and request it. You'll need to show your vehicle registration, so make sure that you bring it along. This general night fishing permit is free of charge. Some of the State Parks, such as the one at Fire Island, Captree, and Jones Beach also have fishing piers. Here, too, fishing is free, although the fisherman will have to pay any road use or parking fees. There are bait stands or stores nearby to these piers so that hooks and bait can be bought fresh on location. On the North Shore, access is more and more of a problem the closer you get to New York City. There are several State Parks and it is possible to fish at these parks with the fishing permit obtained from the Long Island State Parks and Recreation Commission (application previously discussed—free). On the North Shore, there is Wildwood State Park, a large park that offers good parking and outstanding fishing. Closer in, there is

Sunken Meadow State Park, which also boasts ample parking and in several years past, outstanding runs of big blues. Still closer, at Lloyd's Neck, there is Caumsett State Park. This is a limited-usage park that is open to the public and it is possible to fish at the park with a special fishing permit that costs $10. These are issued in limited quantities each spring and are sold out for 1979. Before you become disturbed about the limited number of permits, you should understand that there is only enough parking at the park for about twenty or so vehicles down at the water and the park is literally an island of unspoiled wilderness in an otherwise polluted and abused Long Island. There are rare birds that fly above your head, foxes scurrying through the brush, and a delicate beach ecology. It is fortunate that the State is attempting to preserve it for future generations of New Yorkers. Fishing from many town beaches on the North Shore, even out of swimming season, is not advisable since some communities have local laws that are strictly enforced prohibiting either/or night parking or non-resident parking. Juan, you may be especially interested in the fishing possibilities right in The Bronx. Orchard Beach has produced more than one or two outsized bass and blues, to say nothing of flounder, porgies, and blackfish. Wherever and however you decide to fish—good fishing!

DR. FRANK E. PICCIANO WAS KIND ENOUGH to write and ask "Are they are really coming?" They sure have! "Another good article in L.I.F. regarding weakfish! BUT you omitted the effectiveness of white or white-and-yellow bucktails, which I have found to be more productive than the 'salties' et. al. Sure, the worms and twisters, etc., will work when used properly, but those yellowtails will mouth a well-presented bucktail dressed with a thin piece of pork rind. For the past eight or nine springs at Rose's Grove and off Robin's Island, I have done as well or better than most, using the bucks. I fully agree that night fishing for eight to ten pound weaks far exceeds the daytime production—the serenity, usual light breezes, and the beauty of the night is the closet thing to inner peace imaginable—AND pre-dawn hours can be fantastic!" I sure don't want to argue that bucktails are not great lures, because they are. I have noted many an occasion when the bucktails were the lures to use. Still, I rarely fail in my own backyard with plastics. To show how weaks are suckers for plastic worms and squirmies, let me tell you about a recent trip. Scott insisted on the bucktail—a vestige of his Montauk experience while I used a Mann's jelly worm. Score before he switched to the Jelly Worm: old crazy "doc" - 6 beauties: Scott - 0! The tiderunner is a sucker for a hunk of plastic.

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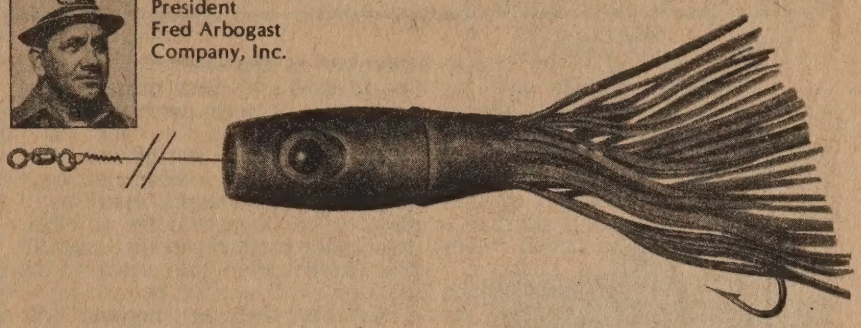

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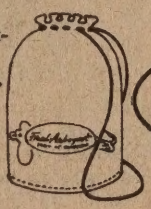

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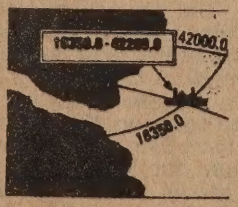

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OLD TIMERS' CORNER

"The way it was..." with Matt Ahern

THE SEARCH FOR KNOWLEDGE

The other evening I was discussing past fishing exploits with my son. Naturally, in a situation such as this, I was aglow with past memories and admit to laying it on pretty thick, for how can an old-time fisherman resist such a golden opportunity. I was going along at a fair pace when I was halted in my tracks.

"Enough, Pop! I'm sure fishing was as good as you say, but how did you fellows learn all these things you've been telling me? I remember you once said when you were a kid, first-rate information for saltwater fishermen was practically non-existent."

Which, of course, was true—that's the way it was. In those days there was blamed little information available for us fellows. True, there were monthly magazines such as Field and Stream, Hunting and Fishing, National Sportsman, and Fur-Fish-Game. Perhaps Outdoor Life and Sports Afield were also on the scene, but I'm not sure. However, all these magazines catered chiefly to freshwater fishermen. It seemed we fellows who found the briny a way of life were seldom considered those days.

Of course, the daily newspapers carried fishing columns and party boat advertising, just as they do today and these were very good. I particularly enjoyed Fred Fletcher's Rod and Gun column in the Daily News. Fred was strictly on the ball and knew exactly what we fellows wanted to read.

This is not meant to detract from those who wrote for the Daily Mirror and the New York Evening Journal. These fellows were all good fishermen and extremely interesting, and we fishermen faithfully followed their advice. But the trouble lay in the fact that while we were told what was being done on the saltwater scene, we were seldom told how to do it. There was no Newsday then; the Long Island Daily Press ran a small column until the time Frank Keating came along and showed how to do it. Shades of Fred Fletcher! But this happened long after I was well into sinker bouncing.

As for the magazines mentioned, I subscribed to them all, hoping always to increase my span of knowledge in some way. For a kid, subscribing was no hardship and caused little strain. I remember Hunting and Fishing was five cents a copy, fifty cents a year by mail; National Sportsman was a dime, and went for a buck per subscription. Field and Stream was a little tougher, being a quarter a shot—therefore, it was often necessary for me to wait until they offered eight issues for a dollar and then take advantage of it.

But even then, as fine as these publications were, I didn't get much knowledge from them. However, I did try to convert some of their freshwater methods to my use, but the results often left much to be desired.

As I say, there actually was little in-depth knowledge available for saltwater fishermen. It was a far cry from today with our public libraries chockful of good saltwater fishing books just waiting the attention of serious fishermen. Can you imagine how thankful we fellows would have been had The Fisherman publications been in existence then? We certainly would have made additional hay in the golden light of this sun.

So, then, how did those dedicated fishermen of the day go about gaining the necessary knowledge for the full enjoyment of their sport? I can't answer for others, for I actually don't know; but I know how I went about it.

First of all, I unashamedly pestered the life out of those advanced fishermen who were regarded by others as past masters. And this wasn't a bit difficult, for in this I was indeed fortunate, being brought up in a Brooklyn neighborhood which abounded in master fishermen. You may be certain that what these fellows knew about the fishing game was gotten the hard way: through hard knocks, experience, and intense interest.

I'm sure I must, at times, have insulted their intelligence with many of my numerous questions—some of which, I now realize, were truly assine. But to the everlasting memory of these great fishermen, not one told me to go roll my hoop. All took time and pains necessary to set me straight to the best of their ability—and that ability was great!

So intent was I in learning the fishing game, that it became a rare day when I spent time playing sandlot baseball or any of the common sports most kids enjoy. If it didn't have fins, I wasn't interested. Of course, the kids noticed this and in no time at all they nicknamed me "Salty." But this didn't bother me in the least; in fact, I felt this recognition showed I was making progress in my effort to learn. I knew I was never cut out to be a Brooklyn Dodger, anyway; but perhaps with a little perseverance, I might someday become the fisherman I desired to be.

I knew, too, that I had to help myself as much as possible, and when I fully realized this, I decided to keep a scrapbook. Everything that seemed interesting fish-wise went into it. Soon I was on a second, then a third. Right now, I would give my right arm to have those books, for I don't know what happened to them over the years. I am sure they would prove extremely useful today—even if only for nostalgic value.

I divided my summer days between catching bullheads, carp, and white perch (which we kids called "silver perch") from a Brooklyn pond, and making trips to Sheepshead Bay and Canarsie for snappers, mackerel, and Lafayettes. It didn't take long to discover that of the two, saltwater was more appealing, and I readily gave up the other, even if my saltwater efforts resulted in quarter-pound snappers and mackerel as against occasional five and six pound carp.

And then one day a wonderful thing happened. I discovered the Aquarium, which was then situated on the lower tip of Manhattan at the Battery. Oh, happy, lucky, glorious day!

I don't know what you may have heard about the Aquarium, if you have ever been there, or even if you are aware that there was such a place in Manhattan. But there was; and it was a treasure trove of knowledge for fellows like me.

Originally, the Aquarium had been erected to serve as a fort, its primary purpose to guard New York Harbor. After that period, it became known as Castle Garden and some of the most famous singers in the world gave concerts there—Jenny Lind was one. But in the days when I knew it, it was strictly a fish palace. And what a palace it was!

Not only did the walls of both lower and upper floors display scores of huge built-in plate glass tanks containing just about every known fresh and salt water fish native to these United States—all in their natural surroundings—but I remember there were also several varieties of European fish from the rivers Rhine, Thames, and so forth. One of these fish was the pinkish-white pearl roach which, if I remember correctly from the placard I must have read a zillion times, was introduced into Central Park Lake around 1879.

I mention this to show the extent the City of New York went to in those days to bring knowledge to the interested. I'll tell you, for fellows like me, having the Aquarium at our beck and call was indeed a stroke of sheer luck. And will wonders never

cease, it was open seven days a week—and free!

Because of this latter fact, I was one of the greatest hooky players of all time. I practically lived there and many a hard time I got from the school authorities and my parents. But that didn't faze me one bit. Where else could I learn so much of what I truly wanted to learn and at the same time, watch all our bottom feeders at such close range?

I soon became familiar with the manner in which blackfish secured food, how cod attacked prey, how camouflaged fluke shot from cleverly concealed sand-nests with lightning-swift speed to pounce upon unsuspecting killies and other bait fish. I watched and studied flounder as they lay quietly on bottom, eye sockets continously revolving while calmy surveying their surroundings. I watched porgies and sea bass pass in parade until I became weary. I spotted bait-stealing bergalls in the midst of committing their larcenous acts. I watched the breathtaking attack of weakfish, stripers, and blues and was amazed at their speed and voracity. Oh, yes, I learned—and I learned well.

The Aquarium's employees were first rate; and this to me was a big help. I never saw one refuse to answer questions, or display a haughty manner. I particularly recall one day watching a small school of cod as they leisurely swam the confines of their oversize tank, and then suddenly noticing a cloudy effect in each fish's eyes, much similar in appearance to cataracts in humans. I'd never witnessed this before and it was something that interested me greatly.

I hunted down one of the information guards and asked what he could tell me about the cause of the cods' condition. He first looked at me with amazement—after all, I was a little squirt—and then he let out a belly laugh. "Well, I'll be damned!" he said. "Those cod have been in that tank a week and you're the first to notice they're different from the others. I can't give you the reason, Sonny, for I don't know, but if you write a letter to the Curator, I bet you'll find out."

And that's what I did that evening. Back came a reply from a Mr. Coates, the Curator. I learned those cod had been captured in extremely deep water (over one hundred fathoms) and when this happens to cod, Mr. Coates informed me, the eyes take on a milky appearance. The cod weren't blind as I had suspected. I was assured the condition would clear normally in three weeks with no ill effects. (He was right.)

Now, Mr. Coates (and I wish I could recall his full name for I'd like to show my respect for this learned gentlemen) must have known I was a kid; but he seemed also to sense my earnestness, for at the conclusion of his letter, he told me that he had many books on cod, plus all the other fish in captivity. If I cared to, he wrote, I should pay him a visit and he'd gladly answer any and all my questions. I never did take advantage of this windfall, but for the life of me, I cannot recall why. It must have been something really hectic to make me pass up that opportunity.

I'm sure that ninety percent of the visiting public went to the Aquarium solely for amusement—and there was plenty of that, what with sea lions, alligators, free-strolling penguins, sharks, and the like. I'm positive that when those curious folks exited through the fortress-like doors, all was forgotten until the urge for a revisit returned; but for sincere and serious fishermen, that fish palace was heaven-sent. Yes, Sir, the old New York Aquarium was a great place for knowledge-hungry fishermen.

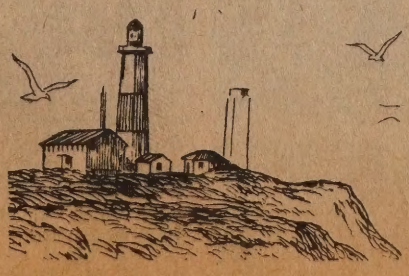
For you boat buffs, let me add a little something before we finish.

In front of the Aquarium, along the sea wall and to the north, close by the fire boats, was a large boat basin. It was crammed with Coast Guard-capture rum runners. (All these incidents I've related happened, of course, during Prohibition days.) These boat were beauties, let me tell you. They ranged from forty-footers to well over a hundred. Each was up for sale by Uncle Sam and the prices were dirt cheap for what you got. I remember sending for a catalog listing each boat and its price. For two or three grand, a well-heeled fellow could really pick up a bargain. I'll bet those boats didn't remain long in that basin.

Anyway, fellers, these were some of the things aspiring fishermen undertook in those long-gone days in order to learn the fishing game. It was either that or follow the long, difficult road of trial-and-error. Were you to ask me which is better—the way things are today with all its easily acquired knowledge, or the way it was then—I would be sore put to give you an answer.

Certainly things are now a lot easier in this respect—but they sure aren't as much fun. I've always been of the opinion that fishermen are better off when they acquire knowledge through personal initiative and effort.

If this article stirs memories—pleasant or otherwise—drop me a line if you care to: 20 Dogwood Road, Hampton Bays, New York 11946, and we'll go over it together.



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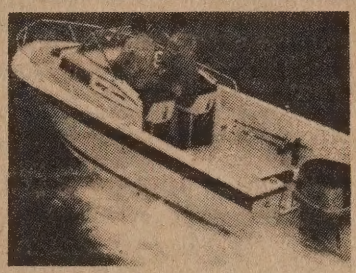

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Surf Side

with David D. Curti

JONES BEACH—POINT LOOKOUT

Well, here we go once again. This time I'm going to talk about one of my pet locations—Point Lookout. Getting there isn't any problem: follow Long Beach Road to Park Avenue, make a left, and follow the avenue to Point Lookout Beach. Before Memorial Day and after Labor Day, parking isn't any problem; just pull into the beach parking lot. Go all the way to the last section and walk onto the beach by the small brick house (bathrooms). Once on the beach go to your left. The rip lies about three hundred yards from the end of the last jetty back up in the inlet. The walk from the lot to the car is a healthy one and during the summer when the beach is open to bathers, it's worse. If you are not a resident of the area, you have to park in the public lot by the fishing boats. From here, walk down the last street (sorry, never can remember the name). It will take you right to the beach. Most of us know that fishing in inlets is traditionally better during the last two hours of the outgoing tide. Well, let me tell you that I have taken fish on all stages of any tide. The rip is always there. During incoming tide, the rip starts at the end of the last Point Lookout jetty. It runs along the beach and disperses into a little cove. By the way, don't bypass this cove if you don't have any action in the fast water of the rip. One morning last spring, the rip produced zilch! I decided to try one more cast at the point where the rip ended into the cove. My Rebel hit the water and on the third turn of the reel, the water exploded and a seven pound weakfish lay on the beach. I took a total of three weakfish in the six to eight pound range and a fifteen pound striper that morning. Not bad for "one last cast."

To be honest with you, outgoing tide is my favorite for the inlet. The rip starts at the edge of the cove and runs along the beach, ending at the mouth of the inlet. During the last hour or so of the tide, it is possible to cast to the channel dropoff. Admittedly, it's a long cast, but if the wind is out of the west, a big pencil popper or tin can be devastating. Big fish, if they are around, love to lie on the channel side of the rip in the deep water. Do you have any idea what it is like to have a bass of about twenty-five pounds hit you when you've got between sixty-five and seventy-five yards of line out? All you can do is hang on and hope.

The best stages of the tide seems to be the last two hours of incoming and the last two hours of outgoing; but as I said before, I've taken fish on all stages of both tides.

When I first started fishing the surf, almost twenty years ago, I used bait—and I still do. Don't get me wrong; no one can separate me from my plug bag, but I will talk about bait fishing for now.

I do not care what anyone says, fishing bait to me means using a conventional outfit. I use a ten-foot Lamiglass rod with a matching reel loaded with twenty-seven or thirty-six pound squidding line. When fishing Jones Inlet, a pair of waders are a good bet. I have always found that the few yards that can be gained by wading can make the difference between catching and not catching fish. As far as rigs are concerned, I basically stick with the standard fish-finders. Pyramid sinkers ranging from three to five ounces fit the weight requirements; hook size varies from a 2/0 Beak for worms, to 7/0 O'Shaughnessy for bunker and mackerel chunks.

I start my spring fishing in April, using worms for the most part—especially when the weakfish make their first showing. School bass start to show in the area sometime around the first of May and I have found clams draw more strikes than worms. By the end of June, mackerel and bunker chunks have come into their own, and the cow bass have taken up residence.

Most of my spring fishing is a daytime affair. Last spring, for some reason, night fishing was less productive than day fishing. Admittedly, this was only true early in the season before the boat traffic became too heavy.

Summertime is a whole new ball game. Before I go into the baits, I will say just one word: bluefish. Every summer blues move into the rip and generally remain into the fall. They are mostly harbor blues to about five pounds.

Hordes of bait are washed out of the channel and gather on the flat in the cove. By the way, it's a great place to net fresh bait. As the rip gets stronger, more and more bait fish get washed out and the small blues gather to feast. Blitz' can occur at almost any time of the day or night.

I tend to fish plugs a lot more during the summer because of the blues. On many occasions, using cut bait or eels is downright impossible—the blues don't even let it settle. I found that for the occasional bass, clams work better. Oh, the blues like clams also, but not as much as cut bunker. There is one type of bait fishing that I tend to do a lot of in the summer, and that is squid-walking. I use a long-leadered 3/0 fluke hook dressed with a little bucktail and a six to seven inch pennant-cut piece of squid. To this, I add a two to four ounce sinker on a fish-finder rig, depending on the tide. I cast it into the rip and then proceed to lift the sinker with the rod tip and walk the bait down the beach. Occasionally, I am able to let out the line and get to the deeper water. This method has produced some nice fluke at dawn and dusk. I tried it out of curiosity one night and took a weakfish; so I generally tend to stick around after dark to give the weakfish a chance.

Don't bother trying to fish during the day unless you just want to kill some time for fluke. During the summer, most "serious fishing" is done at night. Ask any surf fisherman what their favorite time of the year is and undoubtedly they will tell you the fall. When the small blues leave the rip, the cows move in. This generally occurs sometime after the mullet run. At dawn and during the day, I like to use bunker chunks almost exclusively. However, once night has fallen, eels take over.

There are so many variables for fishing the inlet that they become almost too numerous to mention. I've taken fish on eels at night on both tides, but the winds were coming out of the south on all but one occasion and that was a dead calm.

When fishing with eels, I tend to use a leader of about twelve inches. I found casting a large eel with four or five ounces of lead a problem with a long leader. The eel and sinker tumble in the air and act as opposing forces, cutting down casting distance. A short leader keeps the sinker closer to the eel, and they cast evenly through the air without tumbling.

One thing: bass aren't the only fish in the rip. One night last summer I took a twelve pound weakfish, a fourteen pound blue and a twenty pound bass. Please don't ask me what I caught on consecutive nights.

Before we get into the nitty-gritty of how I fish artificials at Point Lookout, let me briefly mention the gear that I use. I use either a ten or an eleven-and-a-half foot rod. I tend to favor the ten-footer because medium action gives me a wider range of lure weights. To complement the rods, I use a spinning reel of sure proportions loaded with fifteen pound Ande. A #7 barrel swivel connects the line to twelve to eighteen inches of thirty pound Ande, which I use in place of stiff leader material. The whole thing is finished off with a #54 or #56 Duo-Lock snap.

My first ventures into the inlet occur in early April with the coming of weakfish. I use a lot of tins at this time of the year, and my fishing is basically a daytime operation. The size range of these tins is from one to three ounces. I prefer either feathers or a plain strip of pork rind tail dressing, instead of bucktail—especially with block tin.

I work the entire length of the rip. My first cast is up-tide and I continue fan casting until I reach my furthest down-tide cast. I move down the beach, and start the whole process all over again.

Weakfish are primarily bottom feeders. Thus, I work the tins close to the bottom. One thing to remember when working all plugs and tins is to vary the retrieve.

The Hopkins and Acme Kastmasters have all but monopolized the plug bags of most surf fishermen, but my favorites are still block tin. Block tin doesn't have the silvery flash of the new chrome-plated variety; instead it has a bluish hue that looks extremely lifelike in the water. My favorites are some old Point Jude and Krendon block tins, and I use them when there are no fish showing. However, when the fish are showing, I use the Hopkins and Kastmaster myself. Why risk losing a favorite block tin, right?

I know by now you're saying, "Okay, tins during the day. So, what do I use at night?"....Bucktails, of course!

The nights warm up around the end of April, or the beginning of May; so I stay on the beach past dark, especially if I have the last two hours of tide. White is the color to use, although those weakfish love yellow on overcast and dark nights. Now don't get me wrong, bucktails work during the day, also.

There are two styles of bucktails I use: one style is the Upperman, the other the Smilin' Bill. Weights vary from one-half to one-and-a-quarter ounces. I know that every book I've ever read says use pork rind. I do also—except if the bucktail is a half-ounce or under.

Start with your casts up-current and bounce your bucktail along with the current by raising and lowering the rod tip. When casting cross or down-current, use a slow crawling retrieve. A twitching rod tip also helps and there are times when a sweep of the rod can make all the difference.

By the way, last year I used painted tins at night with a good deal of success. My catch was predominantly weakfish. They loved yellow tins with either feathers or pork rind of the same color. A white tin produced some bass, but nothing to write home about.

One group of plugs that has provided me with a good deal of success at Point Lookout are sinking plugs. Rebels, Rapalas, and RedFins have been basic plugs in many a tackle box for a lot of years. The sizes that have worked for me have ranged from the four-and-a-half inch all the way up to the magnum; but I generally stay with the seven inch models in blue, gold, or green. These plugs are easy to use; just cast them out and reel them in—the plug does all of the work. Personally, I like plugs that require a bit of imagination. There is one plug that I picked up in Florida that is real weakfish catcher for local surfmen down South: it is the Bane's Needle Fish. This plug has no built-in action. Cast it out and retrieve it with frequent twitches of the rod tip, while varying the speed. It can be fished at any depth and can be extremely effective when sand eels are in the area.

Another effective series of lures is the Mirr-O-Lure 52M, 68M and 85M series in red-and-white, mullet, green, or gold. When there are small bunker in the area in the spring and summer, the red-and-white series can be devastating on any of the game fish. Cast the lure out and let it sink. Retrieve with occasional sweeps of the rod, followed by a slow twitching retrieve.

Many years ago when I first started plug fishing, the first plugs I ever used were poppers. I guess I'm sentimental or something, because I still fish with them a lot.

One of my pet plugs is the Arbogast Scudder. The plug has a deep nose depression that causes the plug to dive deep when reeled fast. When reeled slowly, it looks like a fat old man doing the dog-paddle.

Over the years I've had most of my luck with poppers that float; so I prefer the Stan Gibbs line.

The Polaris Plug is a superior casting plug. I use a pop-and-rest pattern, with frequent flicks of the rod tip. The Stan Gibbs Popper (spit'n) has been one of my hottest plugs for the past few years. Many a striper has been fooled with my twitch retrieve. Work the plug slowly across the water, then stop it dead and twitch your wrist. The plug doesn't pop with a large wave; instead, it just "spits" a small spout of water, making a circle in much the same way a small surface feeding fish does.

Beyond a doubt my favorite plug is the Pencil Popper. After you've made your cast, grasp your rod high on the shaft and shake it violently in a forward and back throbbing action while retrieving. This gives the plug a side-to-side dance that drives fish crazy.

As mentioned earlier, the most popular surface swimming plugs are the Rebels, Redfins, and Rapalas, and I use them with a great deal of success.

There are three models of swimming plugs made by Atom that get priority in my tackle box. They are the Atom 40, Atom 54 Jr., and the 7/8 ounce swimmer. These plugs can be fished plain or rigged with eel skins. If you know there are sand eels or spearing in the area, the 7/8 ounce swimmer can make all the difference between catching fish or not. It must be fished slowly or it rolls. To prevent this, remove the hooks and replace them with a single 2/0 treble hook. the added weight helps to prevent rolling. The Danny swimmers are a good choice for this area.

Montauk fishermen are quite familiar with the merits of the Stan Gibbs Swimmer (bottle plug). The rip is also an excellent area for this plug since it is most effective when fished in fast waters.

The past couple of years I have made several trips to Cape Cod and one plug that many of the Cape regulars use is the Martin Plug. Basically, it was designed for salmon fishing, but many a bass and blue has fallen prey to its erratic swimming action. Believe me, this plug is crazy. It dives and surfaces and darts side-to-side. One of the largest bass I took at Point Lookout last year bit this plug one morning in

(Continued on page 53.)

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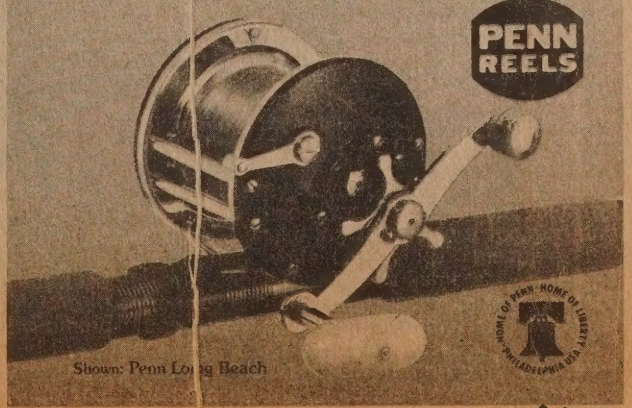

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INSHORE FISHING

with Fred Golofaro

SOUTH BAY FLUKE BASICS

During the summer months, few fish attract as much attention in our bays as do fluke. From June through much of September, they are the mainstay of the open boat fleet. These delicious tasting, scrappy members of the flatfish clan are far more aggressive than their smaller brethren, the winter flounder. That they grow to impressive sizes adds some vigor to the pursuit of this summer favorite. A big doormat taken on a light bay rod will put on quite a respectable show. The term "doormat" by the way, is used to classify fluke which run in excess of five pounds. Some truly outsize fluke find the environs of Great South Bay very much to their liking. Several past and current world records have come from these waters, including a couple around the twenty pound mark. Fluke fishing in this sector of the Island usually gets under way about the second or third week of May and continues well into September. The best action during the early part of the run and then again as the fishing draws to a close is usually found in the inlet area. The State Channel at Captree is also a good early producer of first run fluke. The flatfish are concentrated around the inlet in May as new bodies of fish enter the Bay in preparation of their summer stay. In late summer and early fall, the fluke mass together to begin their migration to offshore wintering grounds.

The first arrivals are often on the small side. In recent years, a good portion of the fluke taken during the first three or four weeks of the run were either shorts or "just-legal" fish. In case you're new to the fluking game, be aware that there exists a fourteen inch minimum size limit which you would do well to respect. Carefully handle any fish under this size and return them to the water as quickly and gently as possible. Some of the best fishing for doormats occurs in late August and early September as the big fish feed up in anticipation of their autumn migration.

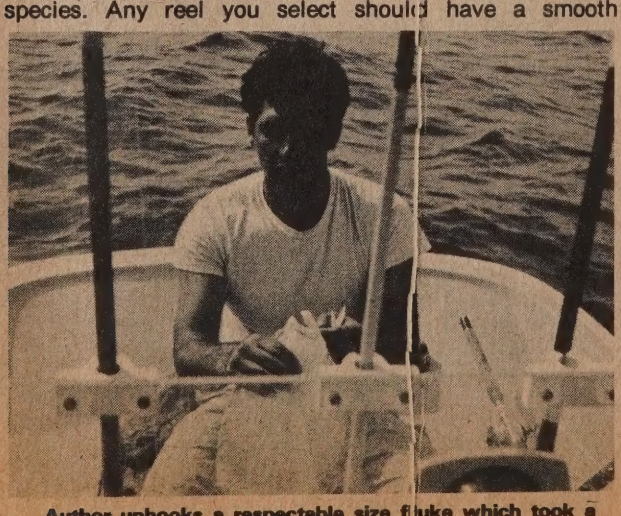
Tackle for summer flounder should be kept on the light side. For most situations, conventional tackle is the way to go. Reels comparable in size to the Penn 209M fill the bill nicely. It should be spooled with twenty pound mono which has a fine enough diameter to avoid a lot of unwanted water resistance and the resultant use of heavier sinkers to hold bottom, yet provides you some security should you latch onto a teen-size member of the species. Any reel you select should have a smooth working drag. Keep it set properly because should you hook a big fluke, they will invariably make a last desperate bid for freedom when being led to a waiting net. If the fish is heavy enough, his last minute antics could result in a broken line, or as is often the case, the hook tearing free. This is as good a place as any to emphasize the importance of carrying a landing net of generous proportions. Also, fluke should be led head first into a net so that they have no opportunity of avoiding their destiny. Few fluke I have seen move very well in reverse.

The ideal fluke rod would measure five to six feet in length and be classified as light action. It should be sensitive enough to transmit a gentle pick-up, yet be able to comfortably handle two or three ounces of lead and four ounces if tide and wind conditions warrant. Always go as light as you can in the sinker department without losing touch with the bottom.

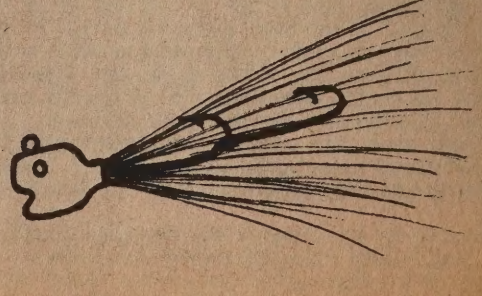
Freshwater baitcasting outfits are well suited to bay fluking under most conditions, and spinning gear in the right hands can be used to present cast baits or lures when the situation permits. Fluke, especially in the early season, are suckers for small bucktails sweetened with a strip bait, sand eel or spearing and bounced slowly along the bottom.

Terminal tackle is best kept simple. I start off by attaching a #5 Duo-Lock snap to the end of my line. On the other end of the snap goes the sinker and the loop that makes up one end of a three-foot-long, thirty pound test leader. One addition I have found to improve my own fluke scores, is to substitute a plain hook for one adorned with some bucktail or Fishair. White seems to attract the most attention. I prefer to avoid rigs encumbered with gaudy beads and spinner blades. These collect weed and sea robins seem to find baits meant for fluke much more readily when these attractors are a part of your terminal rig. Hooks in the 2/0 to 4/0 size range fill the bill nicely. When using baits such as spearing, sand eels, or fluke belly, you may want to add a stinger or tail hook to the first hook. With the right hooks, this can be done by simply slipping the eye of the trailing hook past the barb of the first one. If you would rather, a short trace of thirty pound mono can be used to join the two. In either case, the tail hook should be one or two sizes smaller than the head hook.

Everyone has their own favorite fluke bait. Included in the bait list are spearing, sand eels, squid, live killies, snappers (dead or alive), strips of fluke or sea robin belly, smelt, and mackerel fillets. I prefer spearing during May and early June and bigger baits such as whole smelt and live snappers as the season progresses. During the course of the season, live killes are perhaps the most consistent producer in terms of quantity. Many anglers team their offerings with a strip of squid. Large fluke are often taken on these combo baits. I prefer to pass on the addition of squid strips since over the years



Author unhooks a respectable size fluke which took a bait fished on a bucktail teaser. Photo by John Schauer.



Tandem hook bucktail fitted with a sandeel or spearing is deadly early in the season.

Excellent fluking is often found along the edges of channels bordering shallow flats or sandbars.

I have found squid to attract a lot of attention from sea robins, blowfish and such. If you like the action, by all means include squid in your arsenal. I prefer to keep my baits intact for any fluke that comes along—though, at time, it may be a little longer between bites. A technique that I have always found to work best when drifting for fluke is to keep your reel disengaged with your thumb on the spool. When you feel a pick-up, allow your bait to drop back several seconds before setting the hook with a firm lift of the rod tip. Lest there be any doubt in your mind as to how big a bait a fluke will take, the experience of Nick Russo might help put things in perspective for you. Nick was as surprised as the beady-eyed, three-quarter pound blackfish he was swimming when it was engulfed by a ten pound doormat. He was looking for stripers at the time. Fluke are no exception when it comes to the big-bait-for-big-fish theory.

The contours of Great South Bay are ideally suited to the summer flounder. Numerous flats and sand bars bordering on fairly deep channels and an abundant bait supply help make the Bay one of the best producers of fluke on the coast. Some of the more popular spots in the Bay include the entire inlet area from Democrat Point to the Robert Moses Bridge, the old inlet channel, from the Coast Guard Station to the lighthouse, the Kismet Reef, Snakehill Channel, the State boat channel, as well as West Channel. There are many drains and holes scattered around the Bay which are well populated with the flatfish. These spots are reserved for the boatman willing to go off on his own and spend some time searching out areas away from the "fleet." Fish the edges of shoals where water depth drops from two or three feet down to ten and twenty feet. Also, don't overlook the mussel beds in some of the deeper parts of the inlet. They hold many good fish.

Above all, remember that fluking is fun and the whole family can participate. The summer flounder also has a knack for filling in that void known as the summer doldrums. When the bass play hard to get, and blues and weaks are nowhere to be found, give the toothsome flounder a chance to provide you with some real enjoyment and great eating.

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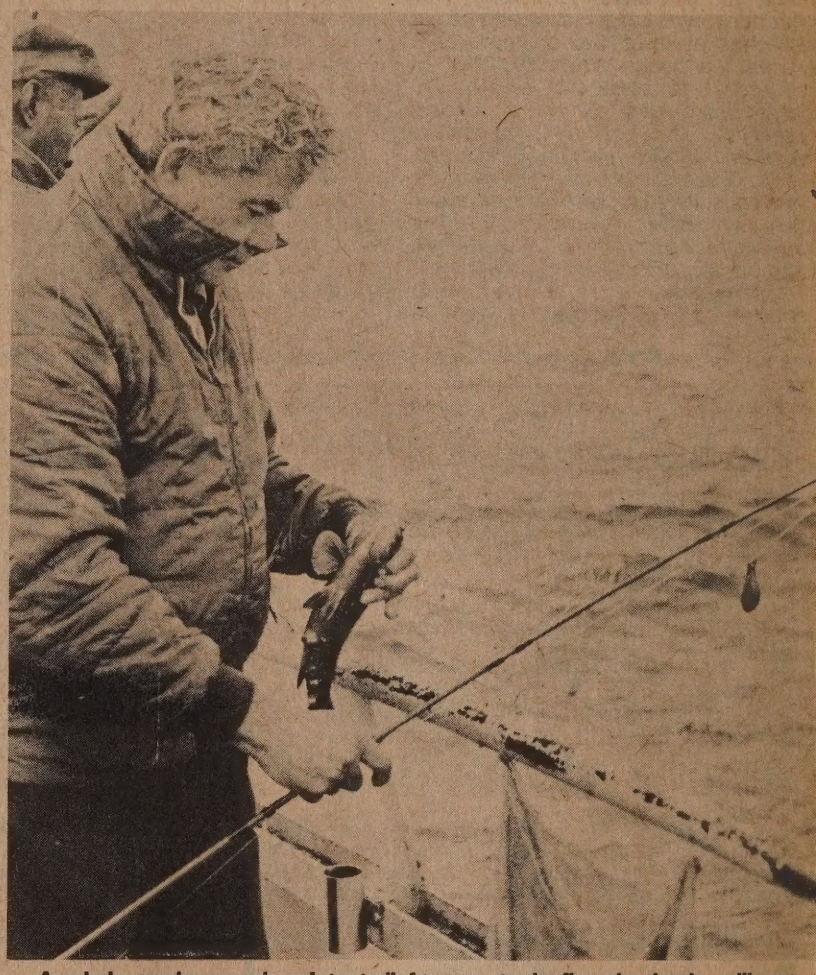
TRICKS OF THE TRADE

by Andy Regina

The true fisherman is a craftsman. He applies his knowledge and effort to the task of catching fish—no mean task by any means, to the true lover of the sport. Unlike the casual angler who is often content to fish bait on bottom and wait for some hungry fish to come along, the fishing craftsman forever seeks new methods that may better his fish-catching chances. Be it fishing with bait or with lures, each style spawns its own craftsmen—anglers who constantly experiment with new techniques as they try to become better fishermen. They adapt many variations of accepted practices that might give them an edge over their fellow anglers. And, as with all craftsmen who take pride in their accomplishments, the fishing craftsman employs many tricks of the trade. These tricks are no great mysteries either, but simple common knowledge that could possibly improve your prowess also.

Bait fishing is probably the most popular method of fishing. Separating the tyro from the craftsman are many tricks that can spell the difference between average results and really good results. Perhaps the foremost trick is to use fresh bait. Surprising as this may sound, you'd be amazed at how many people disregard this simple maxim. Fresh bait is livelier, firmer, and juicier than old, or stale bait, and is presented to fish in a more natural state, such as is found under actual conditions. Firm flesh clings to hooks better, holds up longer, and fresh natural body juices emit a natural, fish-appealing scent not found in old or stale bait—some simple pluses that might add more fish to your pail or stringer.

Presenting that fresh bait in a natural manner is important also. Worms are more appealing if you rig 'em so that they appear to be in their original state. Do not bunch them up on the hook into a shapeless blob; but slide them up the hook shank, sort of like stringing beads, and always let a piece trail from the bend of the hook, which will make that worm appear to be swimming naturally. For some species—notably striped bass and weakfish—use a whole worm, impaled once through the hard part of the head. This leaves the whole worm free, trailing from the hook as it squirms and wiggles, going through its underwater magic of tempting game fish appetites. Do not hesitate to fish that wriggler at different levels, either.



A whole sandworm, rigged to trail from a sturdy flounder hook, will get you those early spring blackfish.

Keeping baits away from pests employs a couple of more tricks of the trade. Tying that hook higher above the sinker and using a float are two tricks that are common knowledge. If game fish are feeding on bottom, and you still are bothered by bait thieves, you can attach a small cork float to the hook leader, and still fish inches above the bottom: too high for pests, but again, still in prime territory for game fish. These special cork floats are available at most tackle shops, and have built-in drawstrings that facilitate easy rigging.

Free-lining worms into the tide or current without sinkers will also score, but the almost weightless rig is difficult to cast. The epitome of simplicity, you can create an efficient free-lining rig by simply attaching a hook to the end of your line. Use an improved clinch knot to do so, as then your hook will not pull out under stress, such as when attached to a nice fish. That's another simple trick of the trade: using the best knot for the job. This ensures proper connection, without severely reducing line strength at the knot, which will almost always be the weakest point.

To get that free-lined worm on its way easily, allow the maximum distance of hook and line from tip of rod when preparing to cast, and gently lob that bait as far as possible, adding impetus by flicking the reel spool with your thumb as

you cast. Sometimes the addition of a split shot to the leader will facilitate casting, and at times, may be exactly what is needed to get baits down to feeding levels, especially when a strong current persists in keeping that bait up near the surface.

Here again, we employ another trick of the trade. When using split shot such as BB or slightly larger shot, you can attach it directly atop the hook eye. Larger shot should be attached at least two or three feet above the hook. While BB shot is too small to scare off game fish, larger shot can do so at times, especially in clear water; hence the greater distance between shot and hook. This distance will not only be less conspicuous, but will even allow the long leader to undulate in the current, which may even prove additionally attractive to game fish.

Clam baits should be fresh also, shucked as needed and hooked so that part of the soft belly section hangs below the bend, once again creating a miniature chum slick underwater as pieces of the soft belly merge with the natural juices carried down-current. Small clams, such as steamers, little necks, and cherrystones, can be used whole, while large clams such as skimmers should be cut into pieces, taking pains to keep some of that juicy belly portion on each slice. For blackfish, steamers can even be used as is—shell and all—by threading the hook into the clam neck and then into the meat between the shells. You should, however, crack the shell slightly before fishing, which will allow those effluent body juices to leak out underwater—once again acting as a mini-chum slick.

Squid is generally used as bait by first cleaning it and separating the tentacles from the mantle (body), then slicing the mantle into pennant-like strips. Hooked once through the broad end and allowed to flutter in the current, these squid strips can be an excellent choice at times. Often neglected as equally effective bait are the tentacles, which can prove productive if attached to the hook through the hard part of the head, leaving all those tentacles free to wave back and forth in the current, multiplying the allure of any single strip. A trick of the trade not too well known about squid use is to first pound those strips smartly with a hard, flat object before using them. This not only gives the strips a blush that looks more natural, but seems to make the strip juicier and more supple, adding again to its fish appeal.

Small bait fish often make exellent bait, and can either be used alive or fresh-dead. Killies can withstand being taken out of their environment and transported in bait tanks or killie cars, but spearing and sand eels are less hardy, and are extremely difficult to keep alive for any length of time. You can keep freshly caught bait alive on the hook by hooking them through the lips, allowing them to swim and breathe through their gills naturally. Of course, these little fish should be handled very gently at all times, as they are extremely sensitive, and prone to go into shock easily. Fresh-dead bait fish can be hooked either through the lips or through the eyes, which will make 'em appear lifelike, because in this manner they will swim upright.

The subject of bait fish would be incomplete without the mention of the big boys, such as herring, mackerel, and mossbunker. These large bait fish make up a major portion of game fish diets, and at times, can be the only bait that can interest stripers, bluefish, or weakfish. Like their smaller counterparts, these big guys can be used alive or fresh-dead; either whole, cut into chunks, or filleted.

Years ago, observant fishermen in Massachusetts saw big bass busting into the schools of herring that swam upriver to spawn, and figured that these same fish (called buckies by the natives) would make a dynamite live bait. What those unknown craftsmen did not realize at that time, is that they would open a whole new technique of fishing for all of us. As word of their successes leaked south, we tried to emulate their achievements, but were often frustrated because of the lack of those huge herring runs witnessed up north.

We were more successful when we copied their trick of the trade using live mackerel. Surfmen up there used small tin boats to jig up live mackerel, which were fished just beyond the breakers to record fantastic scores of cow bass. Our own craftsmen soon proved that live mackerel would be just as effective down here, and in the Fifties, many large bass were landed via this technique. The switch from mackerel to bunker was inevitable, perhaps precipitated by the number of game fish that were caught while retrieving snagged bunker; so our craftsmen soon started using live bunker on large hooks for bass.

This technique soon became the thing to do, if you wanted big bass. Keeping the bait alive presented a problem, which was solved by many tricks of the trade which included large plastic pails of sea water, and even aerators, which kept baits alive for longer periods. Transporting this live bait to a favored jetty or striper hole was almost a guarantee of big bass, and fishing live bunker has become standard operating procedure for many fishermen today.

Fishing live bunker is an art unto itself, and there are as many variations to this theme as there are fishermen it seems—so we will not go into it in detail at this time. Suffice to say that the bunker should be fished alive on a free-spooled

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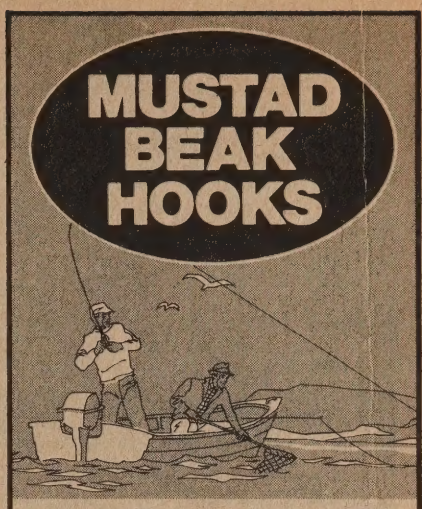

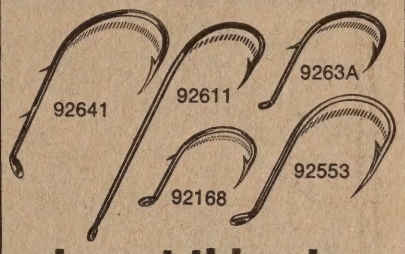

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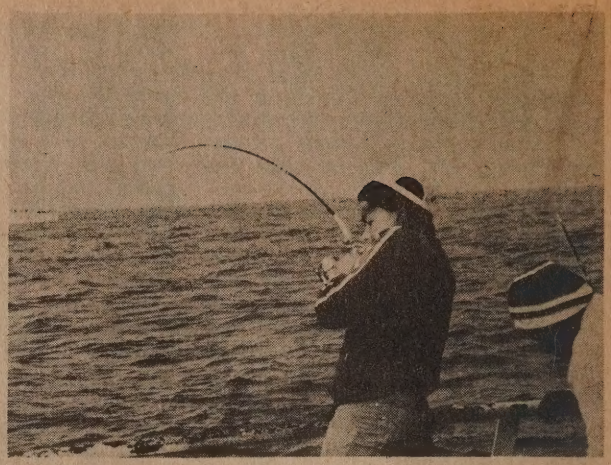

Tight lines, a properly set drag, and keeping your rod-tip high will net you fish every time.

line, which will allow it to swim naturally, hopefully attracting some cow bass below. A trick of the trade you can employ here is hook placement, which will enable you to fish at different levels. If you want that bunker to stay up on top, hook it in front of the dorsal fin, deeply enough to keep the hook firmly embedded, but short of injuring its spine—which will kill it. For deeper running bait, hook the bunker towards the rear of the dorsal fin, and remember that in all bunker hooking you should bring the hook point and barb completely through the flesh, leaving them exposed for surer penetration whenever bass take hold.

Any large bait fish can also be used fresh-dead; either whole, cut into chunks, or filleted. Whole dead fish should be hooked once through the lips and retrieved very slowly, trying to impart a wobbling, wounded action to the bait. Chunks can be steaked from whole bunker or mackerel, piercing them through the solid portion once, and letting the major portion hang suspended from the hook bend, while the all-important point and barb remain exposed. Fillets should be hooked once through the wide part, and permitted to hang from the bend to flutter in the current, in the same manner as the squid strip bait described above.

And so it comes to pass that we have discussed tricks of the trade, but have hardly scratched the surface. As you get out you will soon be developing your own tricks, or modifying tricks that are already accepted practices. Stick with it, Yogi, you are on your way to becoming a craftsman too!

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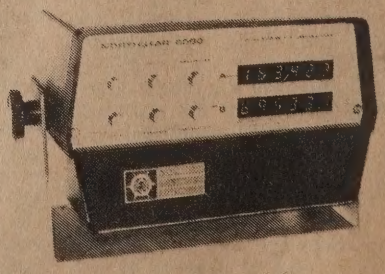

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FISHING NEWSBITS

BY FRED GUARDINEER

THE BAYSHORE MAKO TOURNAMENT, SPONSORED BY THE BAY SHORE TUNA CLUB, L.I., WILL BE HELD JUNE 23-24 AT THE BAY SHORE MARINA. THIS CLASSIC WILL ATTRACT ANGLERS FROM ALL OVER THE COAST.

STRIPED BASS WILL VANISH AS A VIABLE SPECIES IN 10 YEARS BECAUSE OF TOXIC POLLUTION IN ITS BREEDING GROUNDS, WRITES JOHN N. COLE IN HIS NEW BOOK "*STRIPER*". COMMERCIAL LANDINGS FOR LAST YEAR ARE DOWN 68.5% FROM 1973 WARNS *SAVE OUR STRIPERS, INC.*

4,660 ATLANTIC STURGEON FROM THE HUDSON RIVER HAVE BEEN TAGGED BY BIOLOGIST WILLIAM DOVEL IN 3 YEARS. 49 OF THESE FISH HAVE BEEN RECOVERED FROM NANTUCKET, MASS. TO KITTY HAWK, N.C. REPORTS THE HUDSON RIVER FISHERMEN'S ASS'N.

SURFCASTERS WHO ONCE FREELY FISHED THE BEACHES OF SANDY HOOK, N.J., GREAT HILLS PARK, S.I. AND THE ROCKAWAYS ARE BEING STYMIED BY THE FEDS OF THE *NAT'L. GATEWAYS PARK SYSTEM* WHO HAVE POSTED ALL KINDS OF RESTRICTIONS ON THEIR ACTIVITIES... JUST LIKE N.Y. STATE ON L.I.'S OCEAN PARKWAY 10 MILE STRETCH OF SEASHORE.

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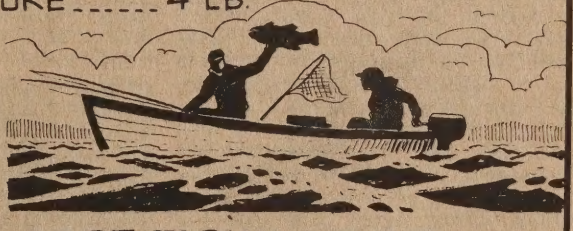
BLACKFISH	4 LB.	SEA BASS	2 LB.
FLOUNDER	2 LB.	TUNA	20 LB.
FLUKE	4 LB.		



BEST FISHING DAYS FOR JUNE WHEN THE MOON IS BETWEEN *NEW* AND *FULL* ARE JUNE 1-10 AND JUNE 24-JULY 9

FLUKE

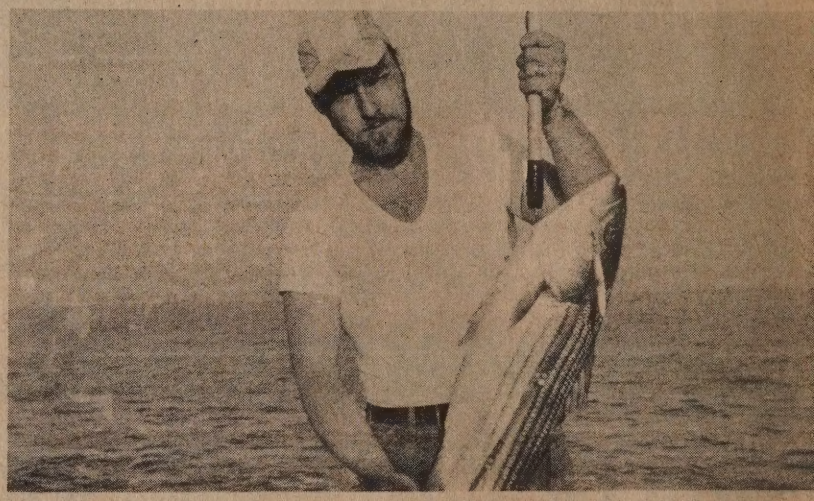
THERE ARE JIGS & JIGS & JIGS

by Ron Onorato

The diamond jig has long been considered by many anglers to be the most versatile lure available to the East Coast angler. It has been around for a long time and when properly applied, will take virtually all of the game fish found around Long Island waters. When the jig first originated, there was primarily one type of lure that fell in the category of the diamond jig—that four-sided piece of plated metal manufactured either at home by industrious anglers, or that one produced by the Bridgeport Silverware Company.

When we take a look at the jig scene today, there are close to a dozen different types of jigs that are an offshoot of the original diamond jig. No longer does a single manufacturer have sole domain over the production of the gleamy metal jigs, but rather several tackle companies now vie for honors among the legions of saltwater anglers on the East Coast. And the interesting thing about it is that almost all of the jigs on the market work to some degree, and some are downright deadly.

Responsible for this great interest in diamond and other related jigs are the hordes of sand eels that have inundated the East Coast for the past few years. Marine biologists feel that the sand eel population is at its highest level of abundance, and will continue to remain plentiful for the immediate future. These abundant bait fish handsomely fill the void left when some of the other bait fish reached critically low abundance levels. Long gone are the schools of silversides or spearing, which for a great many years provided the bulk of the forage for the abundant schools of small stripers. Juvenile bunkers, which stained acres and acres of Long Island Sound waters for so many years, have not been seen in any great numbers for many years. Other interim bait fish such as tinker mackerel, anchovies, mullet, herring and squid have been evident in Long Island waters in varying degrees of abundance, but are not in themselves plentiful enough to support schools of predatory game fish for any great periods of time. So, until Nature feels that it is time to change the cycle of the sand eel from a period of extreme abundance to one of extreme scarcity, we might as well take full advantage of the opportunity presented by the abundant sand eels. When the sand eels go, something else will fill the void. That is how things are in the natural world.



When stripers are hitting on sandeels, the diamond jig will often fool them.

Virtually all of the game fish that visit Long Island waters will take a jig when they are feeding on sand eels. Weakfish, bluefish, striped bass, and cod and pollack will readily take a jig; while other groundfish such as the porgy, sea bass, and fluke will take a diamond jig—although fresh bait will account for a majority of those species. The key to effective deployment of the jig, is to determine when the fish are feeding on sand eels. When the fish are on other baits, or are scrounging around the bottom for food, the effectiveness of the jig is substantially diminished.

Let's take a brief look at the different types of jigs on the market before we get to the actual application of them on the fishing grounds. For the longest time, the plated, four-sided jig manufactured by the Bridgeport Silverware Co. was the jig on the market, and it amply filled the bill. However, as fishermen became more sophisticated, and the desire for a better product was instilled in their hearts, they created many new variations to the chrome-plated jig.

The first major change to come to the product, was the removal of the bulky treble hook that was affixed directly to the base of the jig itself. It seemed that a fish of above-average size would be able to get leverage against the body of the jig, and twist the big hook from its mouth. Someone discovered that by substituting the big treble hook with a single hook, and instead of affixing it directly to the body of the jig attach it to a large barrel swivel, the fish couldn't get that extra leverage, and fewer big fish were lost. In addition to that change, the design and shape of the jig itself was subject to modification. It was soon discovered that a jig didn't have to be shiny to attract fish. Two years ago, the Tri Fin Fishing Co. introduced a totally new concept with regards to the jig industry. The lure it produced was not the customary chrome-plated metal jig, but rather a curved piece of lead shaped in the design of a large sand eel. The jig was painted in several colors that the sand eels often assumed at varying times of the day. When I first saw the jig back in 1977, I was very skeptical about its effectiveness, since it looked too real to work, especially for striped bass. It seems that the better a lure looks to a fisherman, the more often the striped bass will turn up their noses at it. However, after a couple of seasons of heavy use, the sand eel jig has proven itself to be a very effective lure for the striped bass, as well as the other species. Also

appearing on the market for the first time, is the slab and teardrop diamond jig. The teardrop diamond jig is the same chrome-plated jig that we all are accustomed to, but it is designed—as the name implies—in the shape of an elongated teardrop. The bulk of the jig is at the bottom, and it tapers at the top, so that it is a lot narrower up there. The concept behind this is to get the lure down to the bottom quicker, and keep it down there a second or two longer. This teardrop lure does get to the bottom quicker than a conventional jig of the same size, even if the same tackle is used. This might seem like a small consideration, but if you figure in the course of a day's fishing where the jig may be lowered to the bottom several hundred times—its importance is appreciated. Aside from that, the fact the lure doesn't come off the bottom as quickly will often loom as a critical fish-catching factor. The Tri Fin Company is also the producer of this jig. As far as the standard chrome-plated diamond jig goes, the Ava Tackle Co., which was the first major company to get rid of the big treble hooks, still makes a superior jig in all sizes, with a plating job that will withstand the onslaughts of the slashing attacks of the bluefish. The old Bridgeport diamond jig is rapidly fading from the market as a viable option for the serious saltwater fisherman.

Another modification that has been seen, is the addition of a long, single-hook surge tube attached directly to the swivel on the jig, in place of the bare single hook. Again, this modification has improved the effectiveness of the jig, especially when the fish are feeding heavily on the larger size sand eels.

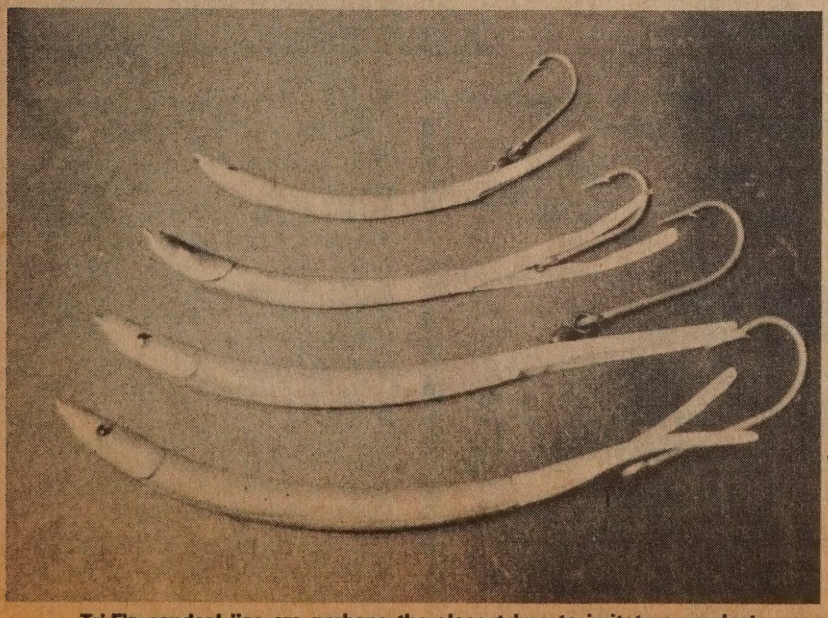
The new jigs come in a vast array of sizes, and there are several factors which will determine what is the best size to use. Water condition and depth is one of the prime factors that will determine what size jigs will be needed, and what type of tackle will be necessary to properly deploy them. If you are fishing in fairly deep water with any sort of tidal movement, you're probably going to be using jigs in the six to eight ounce range. While it might be desirable and enjoyable to use a jig that is a little lighter in weight, the heavier jigs are the only ones that will work under these conditions. For example, when the cod and pollack start their annual feeding binge off the Block Island ledges each spring, you will never be able to get a jig to the bottom if you use anything less than six ounces in weight, and if you are fishing at anchor due to high winds, it might be necessary to use as much as ten ounce jigs. By the same token, if wind and tide conditions are not that severe, you will be able to get away with three and four ounce jigs. For most cases, four and six ounce jigs will fill the bill. Another factor that might have some bearing on the weight of the jig to use, is the level at which the fish are feeding. For cod, this is not a major consideration, because the fish will be found reasonably close to the bottom most of the time. The pollack, on the other hand, can be found at virtually any level of water; and the same holds true for the bluefish. Striped bass, except under rare feeding blitzes, will also be found reasonably close to the bottom. Weakfish will be up and down like the bluefish. There is no need to go for a heavy jig, when the fish are feeding tight to the surface,. where a lighter jig will be easier to use. It all boils down to trial-and-error: you start with the lightest jig and work your way to the heavier sizes until action is forthcoming. While you might want to "match the hatch" as far as the size of the jigs go in comparison to the sand eels the fish are feeding on, sometimes you might want to experiment around a little. If the fish are feeding on three inch sand eels, stick on a big jig and see what happens. In deeper water, with all those tiny sand eels swimming around him, the fish might just leap on when he sees something different from the rest of the school. Inversely, when the fish are eating big sand eels, you can try a smaller jig. Sometimes it works, and sometimes it doesn't. In shallow water, when the fish are eating one size sand eels, it is hard to fool them with anything that is too far off the mark. It seems that the heavier the concentration of bait, the more readily the fish will take the jig. It seems that the fish really get worked up when there is a lot of bait in the water; and they become less selective in what they will hit. When the sand eels are spread out, the fish become very selective, and some jigs will work better than others.

Another important consideration, and again, this will be influenced by the local conditions, is if you should drift and jig, anchor and jig, or jig with the boat in forward gear. Because each of these methods are really quite detailed and have been covered in the past in other articles, they will only be briefly mentioned at this time. Drifting and jigging is the most effective method to use when the fish are spread out over a wide area covering a big piece of bottom. The fish could be strictly on bait and range over the open ocean, or they could be spread out close to the bottom and feeding primarily near certain bottom structures, such as a reef or wreck.

Anchoring and jigging is employed when conditions are such that drifting isn't feasible due to high winds, tides, etc. The last method is employed when the fish are concentrated in a small area close to the bottom, in reasonably shallow water. This method allows you to keep the jig in a productive zone for a much greater length of time than you would be able to if you were drifting.

Sometimes the straight chrome-plated jig will be what the fish want; other times they will pounce on the jig and surge tube combination, and at other times, the straight sand eel jig will be what the fish want. The most effective colors in the sand eel jig model is all green or all grey and black (natural color). These colors will take fish under just about any conditions and time of day.

As long as the sand eels remain as abundant as they have, these type lures will be the main weapons in the fisherman's arsenal, and they should be well deployed. When the sand eels do pass—and who knows when this will be—there will surely be another series of lures that will appear on the market, ready to meet the challenge.



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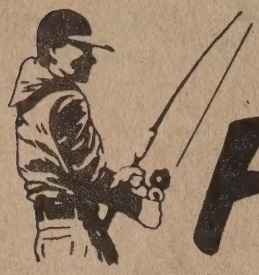

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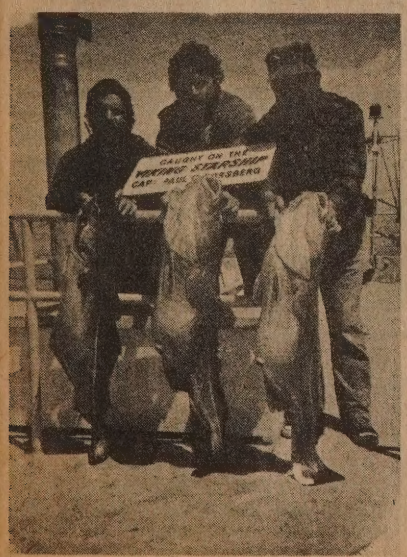
The big news at Montauk this week is that the Point is loaded with gasoline—so much, in fact, that it may be turning into a glut if fishermen don't stop listening to the cries of doom from the news media and come out east to help the boat captains burn it up. All of the gas stations in town have gas they're dying to get rid of, and many of the charterboat captains told us that they are guaranteeing their customers gas for their cars for the trip home. For example, Capt. Fritz on the **Mistress Too** said that his marina will put gas in any of his customers cars if they are worried about getting stranded. So don't worry—the four gas stations in Montauk don't even have lines waiting to get gas!

After an excellent start of the fall spring run of striped bass earlier last week the fishing fell flat on its face for some reason. The only explaination that we heard that made any sense was the extremely weak tides on the weekend which made for poor fishing conditions. But we had one last minute call Monday morning from Dena Lewis telling us that husband Phil on the charterboat **Adios** took ten big bass Sunday afternoon during incoming water, so hopefully the spring run will be back in full swing for this



The "Viking Starship's" wreck trip of May 20 resulted in decks clogged with fish. Pool winners were Bill Jelley with a 28 lb. pollack, Jack Dartch with a 59 lb. cod, and Ole Fredrickson with a 54 lb. cod.

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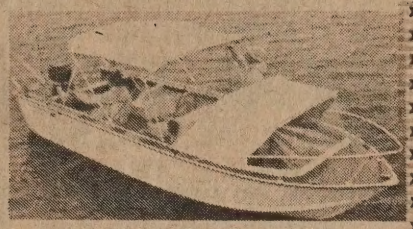

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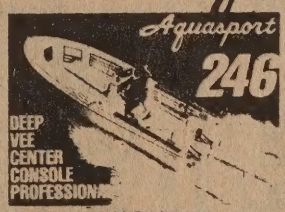

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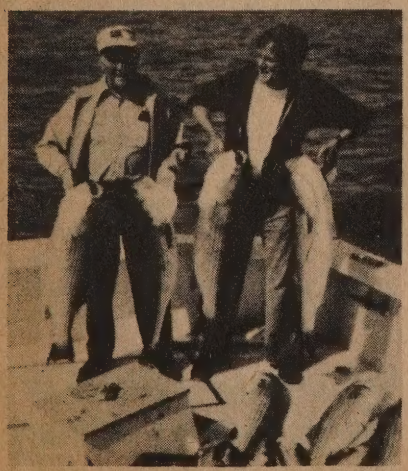
weekend. The bass being taken are all cows ranging from 20 to 30 lbs. with many larger, so you only need a few fish for a good score.

Capt. Phil Lewis of the **Adios** seems to be the only skipper that has been able to show any consistency with the bass, and he was honestly at a loss as to what he was doing that everyone else wasn't. His scores for the week trolling umbrella rigs were 12 bass Tuesday, 15 bass Thursday, 8 bass and 200 mackerel Friday, and 10 bass Sunday.

What with the confusing and erratic bass fishing inshore, Capt. Warren Hader of the charterboat **Devilfish** told us that on Saturday he decided to take a chance and go offshore instead. The gamble paid off for the party aboard headed by Joey Santoro when they nailed 18 blue sharks that ranged up to 135-lbs., which is unusually large sharks for this early in the season. Fishing was done south of the Point, and all of the fish were taken on light spinning tackle—a method that Warren said he will be promoting this year. He added that the water temperature offshore is rapidly warming and it was 59 degrees where they fished Sunday.

Captain Bud Dorman of the **Viking Skipper II** told us that a mixed bag sums up the fishing and it is quality, not quantity, that best describes the jumbo seabass fishing. Anglers are also catching cod, flounder, blackfish and ling, and many of the seabass are three and four pounds—real "humpbacks". Boston mackerel 4 and 5 at a time are topping off the bags. The captain said that he heard that the pot fishermen fishing to the west were taking large seabass in the best numbers they have seen in the last three years, so there are plenty of fish on the way that should be arriving shortly.

Capt. Paul Forsberg of the **Viking Fishing Fleet** reported very good cod



Scotty Howe, left, and friend Phil hold 4 of the 8 bass up to 32 lbs. they took trolling last Friday aboard Captain Phil Lewis' Montauk charter boat "Adios." They also had 200 mackerel.

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fishing at Cox's Ledge on both Saturday and Sunday and it looks the fishing is ready to break. Good volumes of fish averaging 10 and 12 lbs. were taken on both days and the high hookers had 15 and 18 cod each. Eight hangers in the 40's were also taken on both days, and a couple of pollack are taken daily. No fluke to speak of as of yet, but big flounder are still good off Culloden and Shagwong for the half-day boat. Paul said that there is still room on the last Nantucket Wreck Trip to sail this spring, so give him a call. The trip leaves 11:30PM Sunday, June 17 and returns Monday at 7PM.

Henry Colombi of the **Star Island Yacht Club** said that the offshore shark fishing has come alive but there are so many bluefish it has been making fishing difficult. Howard and Helen Rubin on the boat "Cutlet" took 16 bluefish up to a giant 16-pounds while shark fishing in 220 feet of water. They also released several small blue sharks. Peter Zambuto on the "3 Bells", which has just recently relocated from Shinnecock, caught and released 4 blue sharks and had a thresher shark in the chum slick fishing in 215 feet of water south of the point. Bass fishing has been erratic and disappointing to date, with most of the charterboats scoring with from zip to 3 fish for a half-day trip. Still plenty of big flounder in the local waters.

Charter boat **Free Spirit** called to say he had an excellent day Saturday bagging a 120 lb. blue shark and several chopper blues. They also had a 35" male porbeagle shark, which is being mounted. Frank fished the westerly portion of the Butterfish Hole where the water is a couple of degrees higher than the surrounding area. The blues were in the 8 lb. category. Frank says his dates are filling rapidly.

Gene Kelly of the charter boat **Sea Doll** called to let us know that he is back in Montauk for the season and that the boat will begin sailing this week. See ad for details.

Charter boat **King Wayne** called to tell us that on Saturday, Jeffery Coman with the Boyles Fishing Club of Sound Beach had an excellent day

Shown are some of the big bluefish and a shark caught by Phil and Chris Jarrach on the charter boat "Free Spirit" last weekend.

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fishing Gardiner's and Rocky Point for a good catch of flounder up to 3½ lbs. on clam, mussel and worms.

Captain Ron of the charter boat **Julie III** reported that Saturday's charter led by Vinnie Holstrum of The Bronx bagged 37 large sea bass from 1-4¼ lbs., 13 flounder and a dozen small cod, fishing the south side of Montauk with clam. Captain Ron announces that he is now a member of the Montauk Charterboat Association.

Tide Runner skipper Larry Rodriguez called to say that he started the season with a bang working 170° south of the Point about 20 miles out and caught blue sharks, all of which were released. He also had giant bluefish in the 16-18 lb. class. Paul Monos tried his luck with a 125 lb. blue shark on a 4/0 reel with 30 lb. test line. Larry says he still has a few dates open for June.

SOUTH FORK
★ BEST BET ★
FLUKE

SHINNECOCK

Captain Clark reports weaks falling off as the big fish move out. Porgy action was good until Friday, with both Friday and Saturday slow. **Captain Clark II** made a special trip to fish two ocean wrecks on Sunday with excellent results. A good showing of large sea bass and loads of giant ling provided all-day action.

HAMPTON BAYS

Coor's Fishing Station reports that most boats fishing Saturday and Sunday did well in the east channel and drifting the south side of Shinnecock Canal. One boat had 33 keepers. This was on killies and squid. Flounder are also being caught on worm and clam bait.

Tony at **Tony's Fishing Station** reported that the flounder fishing is still very good at buoys 18 and 20 by the bridge on the last of the high water. On the weekend one boat scored with 30 fluke using sandeels and squid by the Coast Guard Station during outgoing water. The fish are all nice size and range up to 3-lbs.

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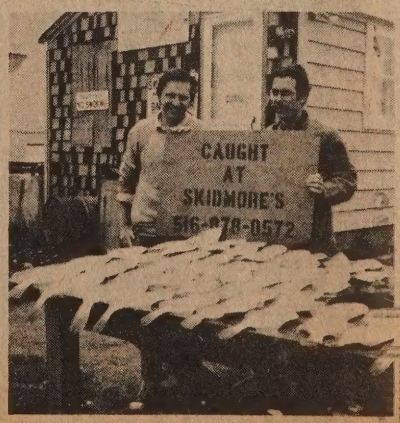
MORICHES BAY

East Moriches Bait and Tackle tells us that John Zengel and Greg Bondar boated 107 good flounder up to 2½ lbs. Saturday in Hart's Cove on bloodworm and clam chum. Tony Rizzo fishing the outer bar got 60 blues from 2-4 lbs. on red-and-white umbrellas in about 30' of water. Fluking has been up and down, and when it was up it was at the Elbow at the eastern cut of the inlet on sand eels and squid.

Jimmy at **Skidmore's Fishing Station** told us that the flounder fishing was still very good south of buoy 34 during incoming water, with most of the boats averaging between 40 and 50 fish a trip. Fluke fishing has been good, but not what it should be this time of year. Boats are taking 12 to 15 fish each during either moving



Walter Cgekay and Ronnie Gnutti with the 61 keeper flounder they took in Seatuck Cove on bloodworms and mussel chum. Photo courtesy of Skidmore's Fishing Station.

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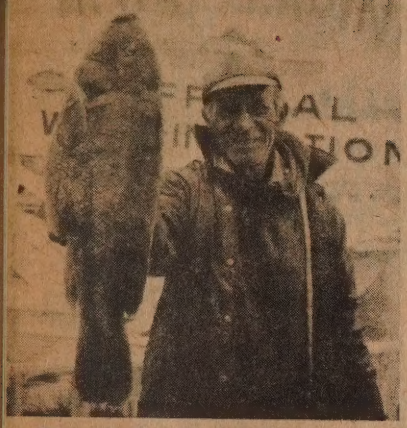

This 11 lb. 8 oz. tautog was taken on 10 lb. test near Buoy 36 in Moriches Bay by Peter Russo. Photo courtesy of Highway Fishing Station.

tide. The Elbow has been best during incoming while buoys 38 and 39 have been producing best during the outgoing. The fish are nice size and average 2 to 2½ lbs. with very few throwbacks. Some big alligator blues are driving the shark fishermen crazy in 155 feet of water southeast of the sea buoy.

Ben at **Tadsen's Fishing Station** also reported that the flounder fishing was still excellent but the fish seem to be getting a little smaller. Fluke fishing has been good in both the Old and New Cuts during incoming water, but Ben warned fishermen to be careful not to keep fish under the 14-inch legal minimum size because the conservation department has been around checking.

GREAT SOUTH BAY
★ BEST BET ★
FLUKE

MASTIC BEACH

Blues this week from buoy 17 to the bridge. High hook on blues was Jeff Maragioglis and Billy Capone with 35 blues from 2-4 lbs. They were taken on Capt. Bill Rigs. Fluke have been taken from buoy 17 to 25 early in the morning on live killies, sand eels, spearing and squid. High hook on fluke was Helman Ludders with 35 fluke from 3-5½ lbs. Weaks are scattered, with some large fish taken from buoys 12-17 trolling Salty Dogs tipped with squid.

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SAYVILLE

Young's Fishing Station tells of a heavy run of weaks at Ocean Beach and Heckscher. This is on sand worms and jelly worms. Good fluke at Point O'Woods, with good action all week on the weaks going from Ocean Beach to buoy 29. Exceptionally large fish. A few porgies at the Ocean Beach area on clam and worm. Some blacks at Ocean Bay Park and Barrett Beach on clam or crab baits. Dave Croceo, Mike Gardner and Roger Esposito boated 18 weaks Saturday from 7-12 lbs. fishing between Heckscher and Ocean Beach on sand worms, purple jelly worms and Salty Dogs.

EAST ISLIP

Wally at **Buoy II Sport Shop** reported bluefish are roaming around the Bay and weakfish action runs hot and cold. Pretty good fluke action in the inlet area on spearing and sand eels. Young Joe Comforti won the shop weakfish contest with a tiderunner of 11 lbs. 4 oz.

BAY SHORE

The Casey Lee reports 300 plus fluke for the day on Saturday at the Bridge and at the lighthouse on sand eels, spearing and squid. Weakfishing has been very good after dark with over 50 weaks for 30 men on Sunday night. Fish ran 8-10 lbs. Most of the boats did well. They are fishing mostly the south end of West Channel and at Kismet on red or purple jelly worms. Also sand worms

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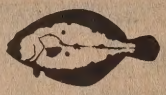

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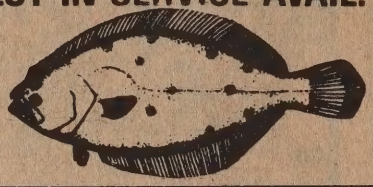

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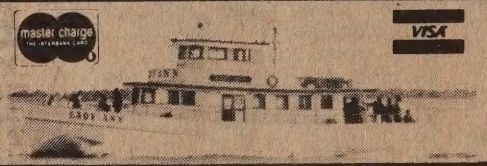

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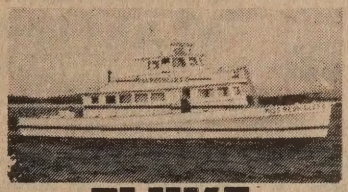

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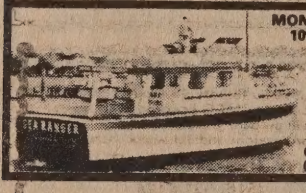

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on a high-low rig. Sunday saw 80 keeper fluke as a total, a day slower than the rest of the week. They picked fish all over the Bay, but it was no slaughter. However, it's a hundred percent better says Capt. Walter than the fluking this time last year. Most fish are in the 2-3 lb. range, with some small fish and shorts now showing up.

This 11 lb. 1 oz. tiderunner was landed by 7-yr.-old George Cox at the Captree Drawbridge on a sand eel. His Dad is shown lending the young angler a hand. Photo courtesy of The Store.

Captain John of the charter boat **Sea Ranger** reports his people are catching large fluke, but you have to work for your fish. No one gets skunked. High hook Saturday was 12 keeper fluke; Sunday was 14 and John is fishing from the bridge to the mouth of the inlet on sand eel-squid combos. Three bluefish in the 1-1½ lb. range have been hitting shiners. John suggest you try tying your fluke rig in about 14" above the sinker for improved catches.

Smokey's Bait and Tackle tells of weakfish in West Channel and at buoy 4. Mike Dearcanglo and son Paul, along with Bill Zerillo had 4 weaks from 5-9 lbs. and one 4 lb. 8 oz bluefish. Zerillo won the pool with a 10-lb. 12 oz. weak. Joe Egbert and Tom Gronin had 44 keeper fluke on sand eels, spearing and squid combos west of the Robert Moses Bridge in 3 hrs. on an outgoing tide Saturday. Bob and Rick on the Four J's had 2 weaks, 3 fluke and 2 blues just west of the Bridge. Surfside 3 Tuna Club members Fred Formato, Mike McManus, Pete Sindone, Frank Sterlacci and Joe Savastano tagged and released a 90 lb. blue shark southwest of F.I. inlet in 160' of water. They also had 14 jumbo blues from 8-12 lbs.

OAK BEACH

The Store tells of small blues being trolled from the mouth of the whistler to the inlet on umbrellas at dawn and dusk. Plenty of fluke from the mouth of the inlet to the lighthouse on sand eels, killie and squid. Blackfish at the jetty on clam and fiddlers if you can get them. Weaks at Ocean Beach. One angler had 13 weakfish and another had 9

Dom Genovese, Joe Genovese and Sal Yevoli display a fine string of fluke taken aboard the Captree charterboat, "Lady Ann."

n the 8 lb. category, all on jelly worms Saturday.

CAPTREE

The Capt. Scotty reports fluke and weaks were very good all week and weekend. Sunday night was the best night of the week with 75 weakfish for 15 men. Helen and Harry McNolty of Floral Park had 15 between them, fish 7-10 lbs. Pool winners all week were going 11-13 lbs. Catches have been generally running from 20-45 fish per evening trip, working West Channel and the lighthouse area on sand and jelly worms. Fluking Wednesday, Thursday, Friday and Saturday was to the tune of 8-12 a man. Sunday a little slower on the fluke though everyone got a few fish, all on sand eels or fluke belly. "Really a productive week," said Capt. Geoge Tweedy.

Charter boat **Blue Albatross** called and told us Saturday's charter for the Tulip Cafe Tightliners boated 4-5 keeper fluke a man. The pool ran 4½ lbs. fishing from the inlet to the bridge on sand eels and spearing. Sunday's trip was less productive, which is the general consensus.

Charter boat **Lady Ann** called to tell us that Saturday's group boated 400 keeper fluke for the day working the inlet with sand eels, spearing and squid. Sunday's fluking was off but they picked away all day and all hands had 2-3 keepers at the end of the trip.

Captain Speedy Hubert of the open boat **Speedy VI** reported that weakfishing was greatly improved over last week's picky fishing. Good action was found in West Channel and at Ocean Beach at the middle of last week. Fishing improved with each passing day. Saturday's score came to 63 tiderunners from 7-10 lbs. Jelly worms and sand worms take most of the fish. The **Speedy VII** has been enjoying very good fluke fishing in the area from the bridge to the inlet. This fishing also took a decided upturn on Wednesday and has continued to provide consistent action. Most of the fluke are still being taken on sand eels and spearing.

Captain Gordon Roman of the **Captree Queen** also noted the improved weakfishing. On Friday, 20 fares totaled between 60 and 70 weaks and on Sunday, again with 20 fares, the boat returned with nearly 80 yellowfins. Fish are running 4-10 lbs., with two and three pound bluefish mixed in with the weaks. Jelly worms catch most of the fish and the best action in recent days has been in West Channel and down along South Beach. Friday's pool fish was taken by Pete Garris with a 9 lb. 10 oz. weak; Sunday's pool fish was a 9 lber., but this was topped by the Captain's wife, Diana who, although not entered in the pool did manage to land the biggest fish on the boat—that being a 10 lb. 4 oz. tiderunner. The day trips for fluke have been generally good with catches averaging 5-8 fish per man. Most of the fluke are keepers and are being taken on sand eels and spearing.

Captain Marty of the **Jib VI** reported real good weakfish action in West Channel as of the middle of last week. Marty also extolled the virtues of jelly worms. He added that fluking has been good in the inlet area and on some days, considered the fishing only fair. Best fluke action has been from the Lighthouse to the Inlet.

BABYLON

Augie's Bait and Tackle tells of a few weakfish taken Sunday on sand worms and rubber worms in the Ocean Beach area. Big bluefish in 90-100' of water in the 8-10 lbs. range and plenty of them. Two boats in particular trolled up 35 and 40 of these blues respectively. Lots of bay blues ripping in and out of the inlet. Fluke are all up and down the inlet, Snake Hill and West Channel with a good angler ending up with 8-10 keepers a day. Flounder rapidly fading away at the Sore Thumb. There's a shortage of fiddler crabs due to some new conservation law in Florida. Some sea bass and sea porgies mixed in with weakfish off Ocean Beach.

Bill at **Babylon Fishing Station** says Saturday and Sunday saw very good fluke catches despite the weather in the State Channel around the bait stations. Many fluke in the 5-6 lb. range have been brought in. Skiffs have been averaging a dozen keepers a boat on sand eels killie and squid. Good weakfishing at West Channel. On Sunday Bill weighed in an 11¾ lber. Sand worms, Mr. Twisters and grape jelly worms are all taking weaks.

South Shore Marlin and Tuna Club member Tony Vaccaro called to report on the results of the Club's annual weakfish tournament which was held on Sunday, June 3. It was won by Bob Gustafson with a 10 lb. tiderunner. The Captain's award went to Bob Zeidler of the boat, "Bob-Kat." Four other weaks in the

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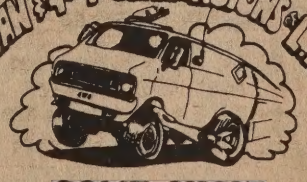

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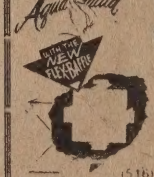

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9 lb. range were checked in. All came from the Ocean Beach grounds and were taken on either sandworms or jelly worms.

SOUTH SHORE BAYS

★ BEST BET ★ FLUKE

LINDENHURST

Sea Horse skipper John McCormick reports that fishing improved Tuesday and was excellent Wednesday with catches of between 5-14 fluke per man—all good size fish. The pool fish hit 5 lbs. on the scale most days. The weekend fishing was off slightly although decent catches are still being made. He is fishing the State Channel, F.I. Inlet on killies and squid which are taking all the larger fish.

COPIAGUE

Larry at **Bait and Tackle Unlimited** reports there are still some flounder at Copiague Hole and the Sore Thumb on worms and clam. Mucho fluke at F.I. Inlet on squid, sand eels and killies and also on white jellies. Fish also at the Coast Guard Station and in the State Channel. Steady weakfishing on jelly worms, Salty Hounds at Heckscher, West Island and in the State Channel. Small blues in the bay and inlet on Rebels and bucktail. Larger blues on the outside about 2 miles off on Butters. Blacks on the artificial reef on fiddler.s

SEAFORD

Captain Eddie's Fishing Station says quite a bit of fluke activity over the weekend. Joe Trupia Sr. and Jr. boated 23 keepers fishing between the Meadowbrook and Wantagh bridges on squid and killies on Saturday. Still some flounder at the bridges, with skiffs averaging 7-8 flatties. On Friday, Mr. Horn boated a 6½ lb. fluke in Great Island Channel. In the same area, a 4 lb. 8 oz. fluke fell to a killie/squid combo fished by Bunny Lorme.

Uncle Hermie's Fishing Station reports his skiffs had good fluking most of this past week, with a sprinkling of 4-5 lbers. coming in from Four Corners and west of the bridge on sand eel, squid, killie combos. The Station says they have all baits.

Pop's Fishing Station also reports fishing has been good on fluke and flounder. Catches are being made at Four Corners, Massapequa Cove and at thw Wantagh Bridge. A 4½ lb . fluke was the big fish of the week caught by Mr. Dugan of Brooklyn on a killie squid combo. Some of the skiffs came back with 50-60 flounder taken off Squaw Island and in the State Channel. These fish are big, running from 1½ to 2 lbs.

MERRICK

Jimmy at **Nick's Fishing Station** reports good catches of fluke all this past week and weekend from Sloop Channel, drifting from the Coast Guard station north up Swift Creek on most tides. Some flounder being caught in Swift and Ned Creeks and at Merrick Point, mixed sizes to 1¼ lbs. Flounder are on worm and clam and mussel, fluke on sand eels, killies, squid and fluke belly. Some striped bass at the Wantagh bridges during the week nights by chummers and live liners. Dennis Newman bagged a 33 lb. striper on a live bunker at the 3rd Wantagh.

Scott at **Merrick Marine Tackle Center** in Bellmore tells us stripers are being chummed at the bridges on bellies. These fish are 20 and 30 lb. class fish. Schoolies are being taken at the west end jetty on 3/4 Fluking has been good in the area on sand eels and squid. Spotty action on bay blues at the inlet.

Tom Crowe, Rich Peterson and Jeff Fannon show some of the 120 flounder they caught in the vicinity of the 3rd Wantagh Bridge. The trio left from Uncle Hermie's Fishing Station, Seaford.

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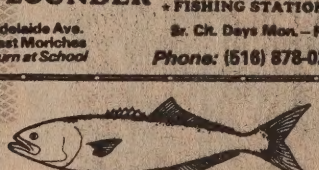

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BALDWIN

Andy at **Arthur Street Fishing Station** reports a few small blues taken on fluke rigs this week in Jones Inlet. Reynolds Channel has been holding fluke. Norm Hamil had 8 keepers there Friday on spearing, trolling against and across the tide.

WEST END SOUTH SHORE ★BEST BET★ FLUKE

FREEPORT

Captain Richie on the **Starstream II** reports Satuday started strong with a big crowd on the boat, but the second half of the day things got a lot slower. Fares still had a decent catch of big ling, and a scattering of sea bass and blackfish. Sunday the boat worked closer inshore and had excellent action until the rains came at about 2PM. Friday the fishing was excellent on big ling and sea bass.

The Captain Bill tells on Friday, Massapequa angler Dennis Murphy bagged 16 keeper fluke including a 4 and a 4¼ lber. Both morning and afternoon trips were very busy. The weekend trips were also productive except for Sunday afternoon which was rained out. Bill was working Reynolds CHannel on sand eels and squid. Fish are averaging 2-3 lbs. **The Captain Al** tells us on Friday and Sunday twice as many sea bass as ling were caught. Cooler water usually means more ling will be caught. Many double-headers of blackfish came over the rail. On Saturday, an 8 lb. bluefish took the pool on a bottom rig. More sea bass are being taken everyday and the situation looks a lot better now. The night trips are still mainly ling.

Hook, Line and Sinker Bait and Tackle informs us Stan Roth using a wide gap English hook took a 7 lb. 10 oz. fluke on squid and sand eels. Stan is a member of Co-Op Anglers. Bay blues at the inlet. Bob saw and weighed a 35 lb. surf-caught striper taken at Lido Beach on a yellow bucktail Monday. Fluke are a good item in the inlet all through Sloop Channel. Flounder at the C.G. Station, construction dock and the end of Swift Creek. Bob says he'll have live eels by this weekend.

Captain Tony of the **Miss Freeport** excellents fluking all week. On Wednesday the boat had approximately 125 keeper fluke. Charlie Heidlemann of the Bronx had 24 keepers. Pool fish ran 4½ lbs. The boat has been working the inlet. Sunday's high hook was 14 fish for Hicksville angler Max Miller. In general, very good action on sand eels and fluke belly. The Miss Freeport will be starting half-day fluke trips next Monday, June 11 running Monday through Friday at 8AM and 1PM

Charterboat **Ivory Queen** with Capt. Joe at the wheel had 85 keeper fluke fishing Jones Inlet and

the C.G. station Saturday with killies, sand eels and squid for Neil Scognamiglio and party. Neil had 30 keepers all by himself.

The Captain Hall reports that except for Sunday, very good fluking was enjoyed all week. On Wednes- Kenny Garritty, age 8, had 10 fluke.

The Capt. Lou III had very good fluking all week, fish to 5½ lbs. on killies and sand eels. Plenty of action. More short fish showing now. Many catches in the teens, with the boat working the inlet all through Sloop Channel.

Freeport's Boatmen's Association reports its boats had good fluking the whole weekend. Big foot fishing near the HA buoy chummed up a ½ dozen bluefish and also the charter dropped quite a few of them.

Aloma II reports slow fluking Monday and Thursday, but good action Tues. and Wed, with Friday being super. Ray Thompson of Wantagh decked 18 keepers. Average pool fish for the week was running 5 lbs. The weekend saw fair catches of 4-8 fluke a man, with all the heavy boat traffic. Spider is working the inlet and the back bays, sand eels and fluke belly on the hook.

Charter boat **Blue Fin II** fishing mainly sand eels had close to 200 fluke for 40 people Saturday. Joe Russo of Hicksville was high hook with 12 keepers. Fish ran up to 4lbs. and they caught on both tides at the inlet. Things were slower on Sunday due to who knows what. The boat has been working the inlet and the state channel. Number of throw-backs is increasing which is a good sign for future fishing. High hook Sunday was 8 fish but you had to look sharp. The Blue Fin II with Capt. Tony Dilernia had great fluking Sat in the inlet with the pool for Stan Biland of Jamaica, Queens.

Sea Isle Sports says aside from the good fluke picture, the flounder in Swift Creek is the biggest piece of news on worms and mussel chum.

Charter boat **The Rogue** ran to the mud hole and had a shark on for 15 mins. before it split the hook. Big bluefish there but not feeding.

ISLAND PARK

Captain Clem of the **Commodore** says it's been a super week for fluke working the inlet and Reynold's Channel. From Wednesday on it was just great. Thursday saw Tom Rupp walk off with 32 keeper fluke. Saturday was excellent with over 300 keepers on the boat. Sid Lee of Cedarhurst took a 5 lb. fluke along with 19 other keepers. Sunday was a fair day fishwise with some fares having as many as 10 keepers. Saturday there was very good action off Riis Park where a big body of fish was laying off. Best catches are on sand eels and spearing and strip baits.

Larry Seaman at **Seaman's Bait** tells of very good fluking in Rocka-

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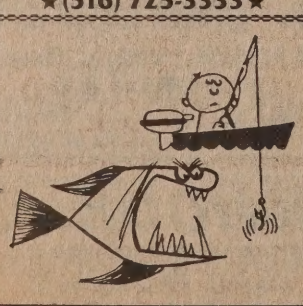

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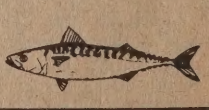
way Inlet and at the Tin Can grounds with a lot of 6 and 7 lb. doormats. Small porgies in Jamaica Bay on clam and worm. Small stripers for those chumming with grass shrimp (please return the short fish). Best has been the outgoing tide at the bridge and incoming at the piers. Larry says the eels in his traps are all chopped up, indicating lots of hungry bluefish around. Small flounder off Floyd Bennett field and the jetty.

Charlie, of **Beckmann's Tackle** called the fluking excellent in both Jones and Debs Inlets. Charlie and Louie Sareloy along with two friends, had 50 keeper fluke from 1¾-5 lbs., at the Atlantic Beach Bridge on spearing and sand eels. On Sunday, Dan Pollera, his wife Nancy, and two friends chummed 8 blues from 7-10 lbs., 150° out of Jones in 120' of water. Blackfish at the bridges on fiddlers for those interested.

POINT LOOKOUT

Ed's Fishing Station told us of Benny and Izzie Kozuel who totaled 20 fluke on spearing in Reynold's Channel. Harold Benson and Alfred Stewart had 80 flounder which came from Swift Creek. On Sunday, Rich Egan and John Paducka had a mess of blackfish taken at the T Wreck on fiddler bait. Also on Sunday, Bruno Gradiac and Walt Stevens returned with 24 fluke taken in Reynold's Channel off of the high school. Big blues showed up offshore as demonstrated by the 30 choppers to 15 lbs., taken by Ronnie Remland and Ralph Kaufman. These fish were trolled on umbrella rigs in 80' of water south of Jones Inlet.

Scotty's Fishing Station reported that Irv Grossman had 50 bluefish from 8-15 lbs. in 100' of water south of Jones Inlet over the weekend. Andy passed along word of very good fluking. Best action seems to be on the flood tide. Joe Graceffo weighed in a 4½ lber he took in Reynold's Channel. Frank Slavinski came by with an 18 lb. striper that took a clam bait meant for a flounder at the Point Lookout Municipal Pier. Station boats return with from 7-25 fluke per boat. About one out of three must be returned to the water.



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LONG BEACH

Adam of the **L.B. Sports Marina** old us of lots of fluke up to 4½ lbs. in killies, sand eels, and squid. More but smaller fish at Duck Pt. and bigger fish at Debs Inlet. Some blacks at the bridges but the big news remains the fluke fishing.

ATLANTIC BEACH

Sy Rubin of **Henning's Fishing Station** called the fluke fishing a "bonanza." Catches of 40-60 fish per boat are not unusual. Lots of throwbacks but some fish to 4½ lbs. Duck Point, Cedarhurst Yacht Club, and the C.G. Station have all produced good numbers of fish. Small blues on umbrellas along the outer beaches and improved weakfishing to the east in Great South Bay. Sy knew of a 21 lb. 10 oz. bass taken east of the bridge on a white bucktail by Skip Gehrdes. He also heard of fish taken by casters at the Silver Point Jetty on bunker chunks.

JAMAICA BAY

Cross Bay Bait and Tackle reports fluke and some blues at the local bridges on bunker chunks and blacks and flounder at the Marine Parkway Bridge on worms and clams.

SHEEPSHEAD BAY

Joe at **Stella Maris Bait and Tackle** says fluke are in good at the round house, Rockaways and Riis Park in 30-40' of water on sand eels and squid. The fluke should be in the Bay soon. Mucho blackfish on rocks or wrecks. Loads of bluefish at Monster Ledge, 4 hrs. sailing time from the bay. No bass news yet.

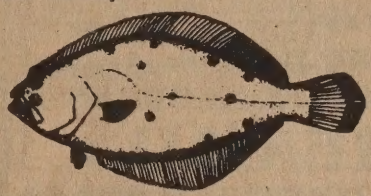
Captain Tony of the charter boat **Big Mohawk II** fished the Warrior Buoy Friday for USMC Capt. Sherwin and party where they got roughly 100 keeper fluke from 2-4 lbs. Pool fish ran 6 lbs. 8 oz. on sand eels and squid. Sunday's charter for NY Telephone headed by Mike Redmond ended up with 137 keeper fluke, with 67 fish in just one drift.

Captain Butch of the **Zephyr** had a good week sea bass fishing at Seabright and Long Branch. Fish ranged from 1/2 to 1½ lbs., with a few running up to 4 lbs. Clams and squid did the trick and some porgies to 1½lbs. also took the bait. Over the weekend, the boat did some blackfishing at Seabright with good results. Fishermen averaged a five gallon pail and better of nice size fish up to 7 lbs. Fiddler crabs did the job on these bottom fish.

The **Atomic II** enjoyed excellent bluefishing Saturday night. Fares fishing Monster Ledge with bait landed 450 blues ranging from 8-12 lbs. During the day the boat has been fluke fishing at Riis Park. Over the weekend, a high hook of 26 fish was taken, fish running from keepers to pool fish of 4½ lbs., taken on spearing and sand eels.

Captain Tom of the **Pilot II** has been doing a consistently good job on the blackfish and sea bass along the New Jersey coast. On Sunday, seabass from 1-1½ lbs. took clam and squid and blackfish to 5 lbs. were taking fiddlers. Good sized parties have been averaging a five gallon pail and better per angler all week and Sunday. Lousy conditions made fishing difficult on Saturday.

The **New Elsie K III** reported very good fluke fishing Friday. Twenty-eight anglers took over 350 fluke in the 2 lb. class; pool fish running to 3½ lbs. These fish were taken on sand eels five minutes from the jetty. Action was slower on Saturday and Sunday.



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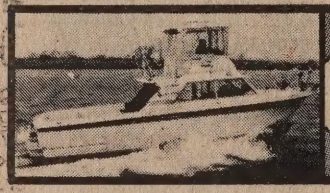

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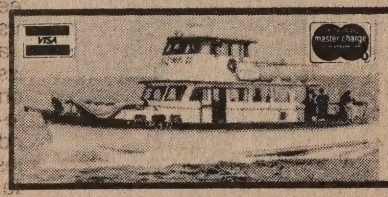

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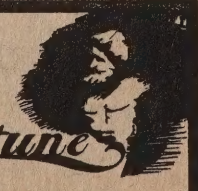

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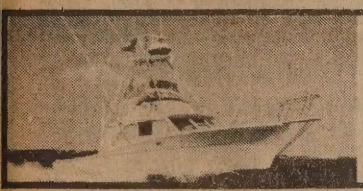

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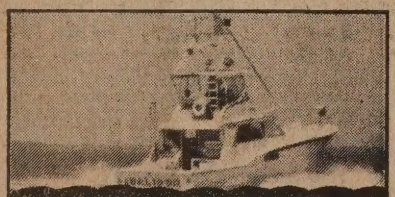

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NORTH SHORE MID-ISLAND
★BEST BET★
MIXED BAG

ROCKY POINT

Jimmy at **Rocky Point Fishing Stop** passed along word that Greg Cantelmo checked in a catch of 17 stripers up to 14 lbs., which he took from the beach at Wading River. The RedFin-Dropper combo provided all of the action, including three double-headers. Ed Beautel and his girl friend Cathy returned with a good catch of porgies and sea bass taken at Hagerman's Landing on Saturday. Porgies available at Shoreham and the landing on clams and squid. Bass, weaks and small blues along beaches at the change of tide. Rebels, small tins, RedFins and Tri-Fin Eelworms all produce fish. Boatmen take fish at Buoys 7 and 11.

MT. SINAI HBR.

Ralph's Fishing Station reported plenty of porgies from Sound Beach to Rocky Point. Worms, clams and squid take fish up to 3 lbs. Theodore Mauroidakus clicked with a 10 lb. fluke on Saturday. The big doormat took a bait meant for a porgy. On Friday, Ron Contino, Sr., checked in with a 10 lb. 10 oz. blackfish while his son, Ron, Jr., took an 8½ lber.

PORT JEFFERSON

Tackle Shack Sportsmen's Center reports fluke and weaks mixed with

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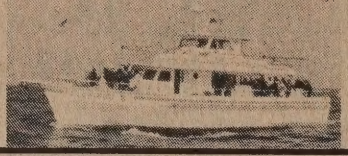

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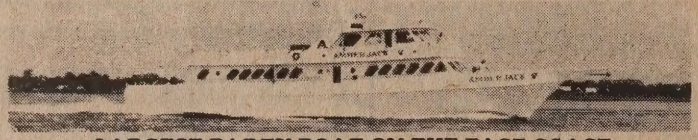

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SAILS 8 AM DAILY

The *Klondike VII* will no longer be sailing from its present location. We are now docked at the end of Fort Slocum Rd. off of Pelham Road, New Rochelle.

CAPT. PETE PEARSON (914) 738-4593

a bass around buoy 11 on worms d squid. At White Beach, stripers e being taken on broken backs and ackerel plugs. Best time is before nrise. Al says he has gift certifi- tes all ready for Father's Day fts.

John at **Caraftis Fishing Station** ported that the fishing is nothing rave about, but there seems to be little action with everything. Sea ass, porgies, fluke, flounder, bass nd blues all provide some action at ne time or another. Mackerel are one from the area. Stan Donin had) porgies to 3 lbs. on Saturday, shing at Shoreham with clam bait.

KINGS PARK

Bob at **O.K. Bait and Tackle** told s that Dave and Brian Spindell had ound 50 porgies and a couple of lacks on Saturday and another 30 orgies on Sunday. The fish ran up 1½ lbs. Jerry Guarino checked in catch of 25 flounder and a 5 lb. lack which he took off of Callahan's n worms and skimmers. Sal and ophie Bruno returned with 40-50 eeper flounder taken from the Mansion area on Saturday. They lso returned a number of smaller sh.

NORTHPORT

Bowman's Sporting Goods report- d that casters have been doing well ith weakfish at Sand City. Saturday orning, Tom saw two surfmen eturn with 36 weakfish which veraged around 5 lbs. Tri-Fin Sand el jigs, eel worms, Hopkins, and elly worm have all been taking fish. Macks appear to have vacated the rea, but a few porgies have begun owing at Lloyd's Neck and Sand ity. A few 5-6 lb. bass at Crab- eadow and Ashroken on mackerel nished Rebels.

COLD SPRING Hbr.

Salty's Bait and Tackle reported ounder up to 2 lbs. on sand worms nd clam chum outside the harbor. lackfishing on the slow side right ow. Casters take blues and weaks t Diamond Pt. mornings and even- gs on jelly worms and eelworms. Mark's partner, Tom and Frank rianna took 12 weaks—3 of which ere in the 11 lb. class on 3/4 and ½ oz. Tri Fin Eelworms. These ere boat fish. John the Greek cored with two 8 lb. stripers, 6 eaks to 11 lbs., and a 4 lb. blue on ½'' Rebels at the Cold Spring larbor Causeway.

GLEN COVE

Captain Joe of the **Lady Lil II** says here is a lot of mackerel in the estern Sound around the Stepping tone area. This past week and eekend has been a slow pick with lackfish, that a good day sees omething like four fish a man. A w good sized flounder and a few

EDITORIAL
(Continued from page 5.)

towards **zero population growth!**

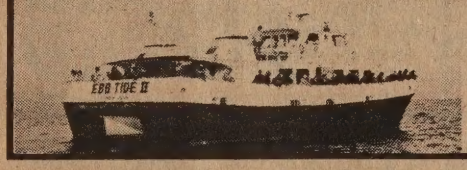
What was the result of the green revolution? Well, we certainly haven't been the beneficiaries of the green revolution. One need only buy a cake or a loaf of bread to know that it hasn't helped much. Prices in the United States have gone up steadily for more than a decade—especially food and oil. Why? With so much more food available on the world market, prices should go down. The reason prices have gone up is that there really isn't more food available on the world market because population growth in the developing countries has rapidly caught up to the food supply. Result: We're back where we started!

Good Grief, Malthus was right! Could it be that all of the government and scientific experts who perpetrated this waste of a great discovery are so poorly educated that they never heard of MALTHUS?

Thus, we feel that fishermen have the right to ask the question and get an answer. Why should we give away our fish? We say let's sell our fish, trade fish for oil—but let's not give it away. We wonder why we haven't closed down our fishing jurisdictional border to **all** foreign nationals. Let's set up our management plans on a sound basis and allow U.S. fishermen to harvest the resources for sale and trade with other countries. Hey! What's going on here? Isn't the first responsibility of a government to its own people? We believe that it is!

Lillian A. Miller

★ CITY ISLAND ★



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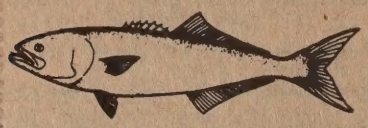
sea porgies to 1½ lbs. are being picked to the tune of 10-20 a day. It's still a little early. He also had a few weakfish on a high hook. Joe was working Sands Point, Matinecock Point and a couple of wrecks. Mussel beds are holding fish better than the rocky bottoms. Some blues are being trolled on umbrellas.



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PECONICS & GARDINERS
★BEST BET★
MIXED BAG

GREENPORT

A. P. White Bait Shop reported that good weakfishing continues for those fishing at night. Daytime fishing slacked off over the weekend and Artie thought boat traffic may have been a factor. Some good action took place off of Louie's Beach and Doering Harbor on flood tide only.

"Excellent" flounder fishing at Orient for fish up to 2 lbs. on worms and mussels. Boatmen have been livelining mackerel at the Sluice way between Gull and Plum Islands for big stripers in the early AM and also evenings. Artie wanted to pass along word that for those concerned with getting gas on the North Fork, there is plenty available beween Riverhead and Greenport.

SOUTHOLD

Ace from **Port of Egypt Fishing Station** told us that boatmen have been racking up some good porgies scores at buoys 17 and 18 and the west side of Jessup's. The fish are big with some running to 3 lbs. Some weakfish at 17 and 18, averaging 5-7 lbs., as well as at Jessup's and the "Greenlawns" where fluke are also being taken. Squid and spearing take the flatfish, while jelly worms are still the best bet for weaks. A few blues have been showing in the Jessup's area but not as many as last week.

NEW SUFFOLK

Capt. Marty's Fishing Station reported that weakfishing has slowed but there are plenty of porgies around for those who know what they are doing. A couple of excellent catches were brought in over the weekend. Some blues around the area.

PECONICS

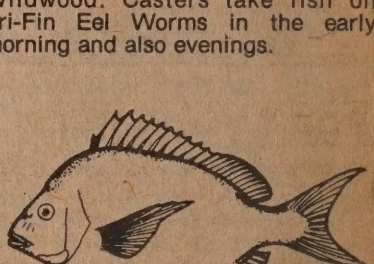
Speck's Bait and Tackle has some pretty good striped bass reports, such as Len Magers and his 23 lber. taken off Southampton's Ocean Beach on sandworms Sunday at noon. Rich Warren of Hampton Bays and Mike Pitcher fished the north side of Shelter Island from the beach with live eels and had four bass. They ran 55 lbs., 45, 38 and 22 lbs. Rich had the 55 lber., which as the fates would have it was the first striper he'd ever caught. It's all downhill now, Pal. Spotty weaks and porgies in the Peconic on the weekend. Tom says all the fish are there, what's needed is proper conditions. Al Morris of Hampton Bays boated 40 blues from 2-4 lbs. fishing the south side of Shinnecock off Cormorant Point casting small Rebels from the beach.

NOYAC

Noyac Marina told us that fishing over the weekend was generally slow. On Saturday, one boat managed 11 weaks at buoy 16, including a fish of 11 lbs. 1 oz. Porgy fishing was good for some. One group returned with a couple of pails, some of which ran to 3 lbs. A few blues and weaks were taken from around Jessup's.

AQUEBOGUE

At **Warren's Bait and Tackle** we received word that some good catches of sea bass and porgies are being made in the Sound on clams and sand worms. Blacks are being taken along Sound beaches on fiddlers and some fluke around both in the Sound and Bay. Stripers in the 20 lb. class along the beach at Wildwood. Casters take fish on Tri-Fin Eel Worms in the early morning and also evenings.



Anthony Losi, Vince Landriscina and Warren Janda display part of the catch they made on a trip out of the Port of Egypt Fishing Station. In addition, the trio had 75 nice flounder.

★ NORTH SHORE ★

NEW ROCHELLE

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Klondike VII
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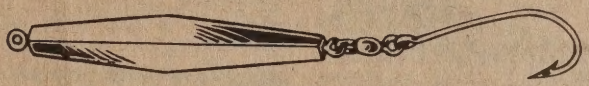

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1978 CLOSEOUT JOHNSON OUTBOARDS
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23" CHRIS CRAFT 1961 SeaSkiff 9½ Beam. Radios; outriggers, CB Eq. depth finder. Rod holders; trim tabs, etc. All reconditioned, camper back. 4-6-G.P.H. Fishing or cruising. $3500. 212-738-6627 or 277-1748.

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2 BOAT OWNER
24' TROJAN FWC V8 INBOARD. Economical to run. New transmission completely rebuilt, engine - 1978. Standup head; galley; sink; stove; icebox; dinette. Sleeps 4. Electric instruments; wipers; bilge pump. Depth finder, CB, 2 batteries, Danforth Anchor; swim ladder; 2 extinguishers, compass. Painted; ready to go. $2500. 516-437-5968 or 516-775-5283. Located at BREWER MARINA, Glen Cove.

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BOAT TRAILERS FOR RENT—Single and tandem axle. Daily, weekly, monthly rates. Temporary & Permanent hitches for sale or rent. BARN TRAILER SERVICE, 57-05 Broadway, Woodside, NY. 212-426-7039.

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Bait & Tackle Store (Suffolk)—can convert or add other type business. Est. 15 years. Two bright apts. Good location; owner retiring. Will hold mortgage; less than bank rates. 516-281-3766.

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FLOUNDER/FLUKE BELT BUCKLE. Life-like 3-dimensional heavy metal buckle in beautiful antique brass finish. You've never seen anything like it! So realistic, you'll want to fillet it. Send $6.50 + $.50 postage & handling to: P. MILLER, 150 Babylon Tpk., Merrick, N.Y. 11566.

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NOTICE: To John Bondi and others who are looking for the SICO, SPUG, VEENY and the DEMO. These lures WON'T BE FOUND in the chain stores, only in the SMALLER TACKLE & SPORTING GOODS STORES, because they REPAIR TACKLE and have information on WHERE and WHEN TO FISH. We made a statement that these lures are the only lures with a WOBBLY FLASHING ZIGZAG MOTION (true) and WON'T SPIN OR PLANE UP (Correction) the 3" SICO will spin when trolled. A killer for mackerel and snapper blues; put a single short shank #6 hook on the 2" and 3" SICO, put them on a leader one foot apart with the 3" on the bottom. THE MINNOE LURE CO. #25.

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Wholesale & Retail bait dealers only. Call or write: DANNY PARKER, 904-578-2075. Rt. 2, Box 83, Perry, Fla. 32347.

FREE CATALOG—Hooks, rigs, diamond jigs, bucktails, Bananas, Rebels, umbrella rigs, Tri-Fins, and Jelly Worms. PLUS a lot more at discount prices. Send to: CUSTOM TACKLE, BOX 38, DEPT. 1, SEAFORD, NY 11783. FOR QUICK DELIVERY: Phone 516-799-7031.

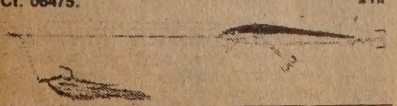
FREE CATALOG—Quality Saltwater Rigs. HUDSON TACKLE, P. O. Box 437, Dept. L., Kearny, N.J. 07032.

Fantastic Shakespeare Combo—5' 10" #SP1100 Ugly Stik, all ceramic guides; and Shakespeare #5910 skirted spool spinning reel. Brand new; still in original factory wrappings. - $75. 516-223-6135 or 516-868-2391. After 6PM.

FLUKE KILLER RIGS!! The ULTIMATE in fluke killer rigs. Deadly double hook design. Long time secret of the "Pros." You will hook more and lose fewer fluke, since fish can't avoid the full adjustable tail hook. Each rig is hand tied; finest materials used. Pays for itself in fluke dinners. Three completely tied rigs only $3.50. Send check or M.O. to: P. MILLER, 150 Babylon Tpke., Merrick, NY 11566.

DROPPERS. Hand tied, rigged 4/0 stainless Mustad hooks, 4" saddle hackle. Colors: yellow, white, yellow/white. $1.00 each. No cash. LEE CONNER, 89-51 237 St., Bellerose, NY. 11426.

Droppers—Our DROPPA the hottest lure from Cape Cod for bass, blues and weaks, is available by mail in white, yellow, blue, olive, blue-white and black. 5/0 stainless hook. $1.39 ea., 5 for $5.95; 10 for $9.95. (Conn. residents 7%). ANGLING AIDS, P.O. Box 280. Old Saybrook, Ct. 06475. #1R



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SURF SIDE
(Continued from page 19.)

September.

Perhaps one of the most natural plugs to fish in the rip is the Darter. I fish the Darter a number of ways. The steady retrieve makes the plug dive deep, bouncing its nose into the sand. Sometimes I cast to the front of the rip, letting the plug be swept along while I just raise and lower the rod tip. It resembles a bait fish that is trapped in the current. Many times when the plug has been swept down into the rip, I combine this method with frequent sweeps of the rod tip back, with short jerks while retrieving. Don't make it pop or come out of the water. One more thing: Darters are best when there is little wind.

Color is of some importance and, in general, it seems to be white and mackerel green in the spring; white and yellow during clear summer mornings and dusks, and blue and white during the fall.

Most of the plugs I have mentioned can be used any time during the season, but there are two lures that I have found really come into their own during the fall. One is the rigged eel. I tend to favor the smaller eels rigged on about an ounce to an ounce-and-a-half head. They are fished slow and deep, creating an S pattern as they swim. My other pet fall lure is a bucktail head in one-half to one-and-a-quarter ounce weights rigged with an eel skin. It is extremely versatile and can be fished with a slow, steady retrieve, a stop-and-go while bouncing bottom, sweeps of the rod tip—you name it; they've all worked for me at different times.

Well, that's about it until next time. See you at Point Lookout.

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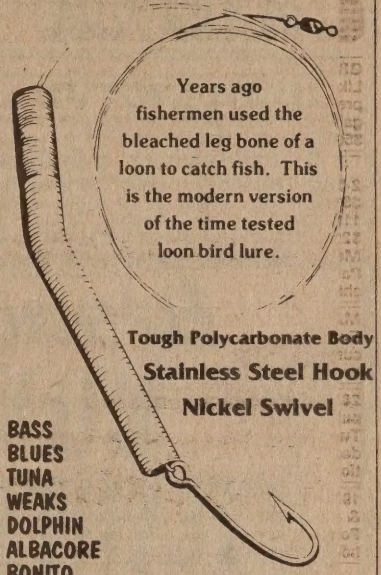


Troll With Loonie Bones

★ See Your Local Dealer ★

Dave Noya, left, with a 21½ lb. striper and Jason Colby with a 26 lber. Both fish were taken on eels in the Pt. Lookout area. Photo courtesy of Charvin Fishing Station.

NORTH SHORE WEST END

★ BEST BET ★ BLACKFISH

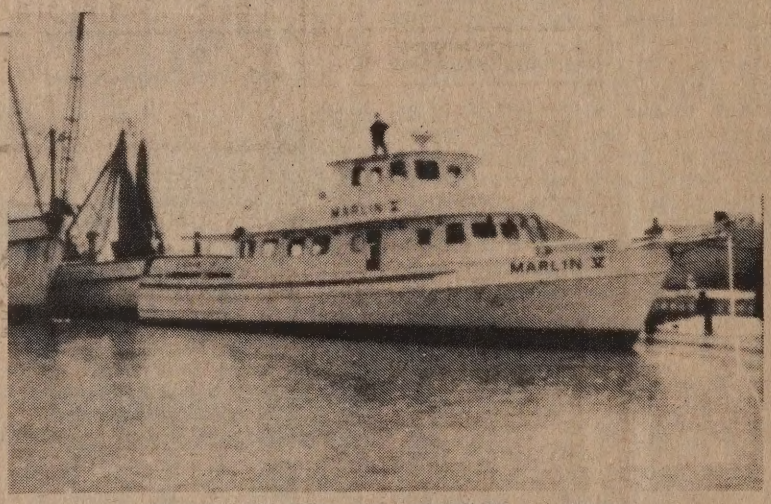
HUNTINGTON

Charter boat **Eclipse** called to tell us that Saturday morning and Sunday night produced a total of 14 weakfish up to 9 lbs. 8 oz. at Eaton's Neck. This was on single white tubes on wire for Capt. Ray and mate Kevin Roof. Ray says that porgies and blacks are being picked at Eaton's Neck and Target Rock and that on Sunday night, mackerel were up on top at Eaton's.

George Valentine of **Four Winds Bait and Tackle** spoke of plenty of weaks at Diamond Pt. The Tri-Fin Diamond Head-Jelly Worm combo is accounting for many of the fish. The action over the weekend was slower than it had been during the week. A few bass taken by worm trollers in Cold Spring Harbor. George weighed in a 31½ lb. surf-caught bass for a female angler Saturday AM. The striper was taken from one of the local beaches. George knew of good blackfishing at the Eaton's Neck light. Fish up to 9 lbs. being taken on fiddlers. A couple of fluke showing up in the area.

Ronnie Ferrara of **Ronnie's Bait and Tackle** checked in two bass of 11 and 11½ lbs., and a pair of weaks taken by Sound and Surf Fishing Club member Ed Parkinson. Ed took all four fish on the Rebel-dropper combo. Rocky and Gary Osso had 3 bass and 4 weaks Saturday night. The weaks took droppers sweetened with a piece of jelly worm. Of interest to boatmen, Ray Nigro wirelined 5 weaks to 9½ lbs. at Eaton's Neck on a single white tube. Ronnie also reported very good blackfishing at Eaton's Neck on fiddlers. Blacks were also caught at Morris and Target Rocks. Good weakfishing at Lloyd's Pt. on drifted jelly worms. Also at Caumsett for both boatmen and casters. Fish run 3-9 lbs. Bill Huges had a 27 lb. striper which he took at the Causeway on a sand worm.

Brand New MONTAUK CHARTERBOAT!



★MARLIN V★

Captain Richie Rade just brought in this latest addition to the MONTAUK CHARTER FLEET!

This vessel is 65 ft. long and 22 ft. in the beam, sports full electronics and can take up to a 75 man charter. All Tackle Available!

For Further Information Call:

Capt. Richie Rade • (516) 668-2885

CITY ISLAND

The Ebb Tide reports that this weekend catches of blacks and flounder kept people happy. Blacks were up to 7 lbs. on fiddlers. Some porgies were taken on clam bait. The boat was working from Smithtown to Lloyd's Neck.

Jack's Bait and Tackle told of lots of blackfish on fiddlers at Execution Light, Hart's Island and the old CBS Tower. Plenty of mackerel concentrated in the area. School bass, 2-8 lbs. being taken at Hart's Island on split-tail Rebels, small Smiling Bill bucktails, and sand worms. A few flounder on sand worms at Orchard Beach and Rodman's Neck.

Six-year-old Christian Ream of Oldbridge, N.J., took this 4½ lb. blackfish on his first fishing trip ever. Photo courtesy of Jack's Bait & Tackle.

HIGH TIDE TABLES

DAY	SANDY HOOK AM	SANDY HOOK PM	Breakwater Harbor AM	Breakwater Harbor PM	NEW YORK AM	NEW YORK PM	NEW LONDON AM	NEW LONDON PM	WILLETS POINT AM	WILLETS POINT PM	BRIDGE-PORT AM	BRIDGE-PORT PM	NEW-PORT AM	NEW-PORT PM	DATE
THUR.	6:05	6:34	6:52	7:18	6:43	7:09	7:43	8:00	9:27	9:35	9:28	9:46	6:04	6:27	6/7
FRI.	6:52	7:19	7:39	8:00	7:32	7:51	8:26	8:39	10:12	10:19	10:15	10:31	6:51	7:12	6/8
SAT.	7:41	8:02	8:22	8:45	8:18	8:32	9:11	9:23	10:56	11:04	11:03	11:16	7:36	7:57	6/9
SUN.	8:24	8:46	9:08	9:29	9:01	9:15	9:56	10:07	11:41	11:51	11:49	–	8:23	8:43	6/10
MON.	9:13	9:33	9:54	10:16	9:51	10:02	10:43	10:53	–	12:30	12:03	12:38	9:11	9:31	6/11
TUE.	10:02	10:22	10:43	11:04	10:44	10:55	11:33	11:44	12:39	1:18	12:51	1:25	10:00	10:19	6/12
WED.	10:55	11:16	11:36	11:55	11:43	11:53	–	12:26	1:30	2:09	1:41	2:18	10:51	11:12	6/13
THUR.	11:53	–	–	12:32	–	12:40	12:36	1:24	2:22	3:05	2:34	3:11	11:46	–	6/14

HOW TO USE TIDE TABLES:

To compute the high tide for the area you wish to fish, simply find the closest area on the conversion tables. Add or subtract the hours and minutes as indicated from that areas station above. Example: "Shinnecock Inlet.....—0 50" is listed under "On SANDY HOOK." —0 50 means you subtract 50 minutes from the times given for the SANDY HOOK STATION for the day you are going fishing. This is the approximate time for the high tide in the area. For low tide, add 6 ½ hours to this figure.

On SANDY HOOK

STATEN ISLAND	+ 0 27
ATLANTIC HIGHLANDS	—0 01
Red Bank, Navesink R.I.	+ 0 48
Long Branch	—0 34
SHARK RIVER INLET	—0 18
Shark River Basin	+ 0 27
MANASQUAN INLET	—0 12
Seaside Park	—0 33
Mantoloking Bridge	+ 5 34
TOMS RIVER	+ 4 37
Waretown	+ 2 33
BARNEGAT LIGHT	—0 20
Manahawkin Bridge	+ 2 33
Beach Haven	+ 1 47
LITTLE EGG INLET	—0 01
Seven Islands	+ 0 12
Graveling Point	+ 1 05
Mullica River	+ 1 55
Grassy Bay	+ 1 08
ABSECON INLET	+ 0 14
Atlantic City Pier	—0 26
Gt. Egg Harbor Inlet	+ 0 12
GREAT EGG HARBOR	+ 0 46
CORSON INLET	+ 0 09
TOWNESEND INLET	+ 0 06
HEREFORD INLET	+ 0 02
Grassy Sound Bridge	+ 0 45
Cape May Harbor	—0 02
Rehoboth Beach	—0 07
INDIAN RIVER INLET	+ 0 14
SHINNECOCK INLET	—0 50
Shinnecock Bay	+ 1 25
East Quogue	+ 2 45
Shinnecock Canal	+ 1 18
Indian Reservation	+ 3 05
MORICHES INLET	—0 56
Smith's Point	+ 3 28
Harts Cove	+ 1 30
Potunck Point	+ 3 35
Mastic Beach	+ 3 28
FIRE ISLAND INLET	—0 38
Democrat Point	—0 38
Coast Guard Station	—0 19
Fire Island Light	+ 0 47
GREAT SOUTH BAY	
Sayville	+ 3 39
Heckscher State Pk.	+ 3 20
Bay Shore	+ 2 23
Babylon	+ 2 12
Amityville	+ 2 21
JONES INLET	—0 19
Zachs Bay	+ 1 25
Seaford Harbor	+ 2 05
Freeport Creek	+ 0 34
E. ROCKAWAY INLET	—0 06
Long Beach Bridge	+ 0 19
ROCKAWAY INLET	—0 00
Beach Ch. Bridge	+ 0 38
JFK Airport	+ 0 26

On BRIDGEPORT

Lloyd Point	+ 0 08
Cold Spring Harbor	+ 0 08
Bayville Bridge	+ 0 13
Eatons Neck Point	+ 0 03
Northport Bay	+ 0 03
Norwalk Islands	+ 0 10
Smithtown Bay	—0 03
Cranes Neck Point	+ 0 05
Port Jefferson Harbor	+ 0 03
New Haven Harbor	+ 0 08
Mount Sinai Harbor	—0 08
Herod Point	—0 07
Mattituck Inlet	+ 0 19
Horton Point	—0 20
Truman Beach	—0 42
Falkner Island	—0 13
Sachem Head	—0 10
Branford Harbor	—0 07
New Haven Harbor	—0 08
Milford Harbor	—0 07
Stratford	+ 0 27
Shelton	+ 1 36
Black Rock Harbor	—0 03
Saugatuck River	—0 01
South Norwalk	+ 0 10
Greens Ledge	—0 01
Stamford	+ 0 04
Cos Cob Harbor	+ 0 06
Greenwich	+ 0 02

On NEW LONDON

Orient Point	+ 0 27
Little Gull Is. (Race)	+ 0 12
Greenport	+ 1 04
Southold	+ 1 43
New Suffolk	+ 2 26
South Jamesport	+ 2 32
Shinnecock Canal	+ 2 33
Noyack Bay	+ 2 05
Sag Harbor	+ 0 59
Gardiners Bay	+ 0 21
Promised Land	—0 14
Montauk Inlet	—0 25
Montauk Point	—1 13
Niantic	+ 1 20
Stonington	—0 33
Noahk, Mystic River	—0 23
THAMES RIVER	
Smith Cove	—0 01
Norwich	+ 0 09
CONNECTICUT RIVER	
Saybrook jetty	+ 1 10
Lyme	+ 1 24
Essex	+ 1 38
East Haddam	+ 2 41
Higganum Creek	+ 2 54

On WILLETS PT.

Little Neck Bay	—0 10
Execution Light	—0 06
Manhasset Bay	—0 01
Hempstead Harbor	—0 11
City Island	—0 03
Rye Beach	—0 28
Port Chester	—0 09
Mamaroneck	—0 08
New Rochelle	—0 24
Davids Island	—0 02

On B'WATER HB.

CAPE MAY POINT	—0 10
Miami Beach	+ 1 17
East Point	+ 0 53
Egg Island Point	+ 0 33
Cape Henlopen	—0 05
ROOSEVELT INLET	+ 0 09
Mispillion River Ent.	+ 0 33
St. Jones River Ent.	+ 0 57

On NEW YORK

Jersey City	+ 0 07
Geo. Washington Br.	+ 0 46
Spuyten Duyvil	+ 0 58
Ossining	+ 1 53
Peekskill	+ 2 24
West Point	+ 3 16
Newburg	+ 3 42

On NEWPORT

Sakonnet	—0 10
Tiverton	+ 0 21
Beavertail Point	—0 02
Prudence Is., Sandy Pt.	+ 0 10
Bristol	+ 0 10
Warren	+ 0 21
Nayatt Point	+ 0 12
Pawtucket	+ 0 21
East Greenwich	+ 0 16
Wickford	+ 0 12
Narragansett Pier	—0 08
Point Judith Harbor	—0 07
BLOCK ISLAND	
Great Salt Pond	+ 0 05
Old Harbor	—0 14
Watch Hill Point	+ 0 44

SUNRISE/SUNSET

6/5	5:25	8:32
6/10	5:24	8:35
6/15	5:24	8:37
6/20	5:24	8:39
6/25	5:25	8:40
6/30	5:27	8:40

PHASES OF THE MOON

NEW	1st Qtr.	FULL	2nd Qtr.
6/24	6/2	6/10	6/17

The Original Knight
SOLUNAR TABLES
When To Fish Or Hunt

The schedule of solunar periods for the following week as printed below has been taken from the original Knight Solunar Tables. Plan your day so that you will be fishing good areas during these times when the fish should be most active. The tables are not a guarantee you will catch fish, however.

The major periods begin at the time shown and last for an hour-and-a-half or two hours thereafter, and are in the bold type face. The minor periods are shorter in duration and lighter type.

	AM Minor	AM Major	PM Minor	PM Major
Thurs.	2:30	9:05	3:00	9:25
Fri.	3:15	9:50	3:40	10:15
Sat.	4:00	10:40	4:30	11:05
Sun.	4:50	11:30	5:20	11:55
Mon.	5:40	—	6:15	12:35
Tues.	6:45	1:05	7:15	1:35
Wed.	7:50	2:10	8:20	2:40
Thurs.	8:55	3:15	9:25	3:45

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In lab tests for durability, hundreds of results proved new Stren® twice as tough as other leading lines.

And in the scuffs and scrapes of actual fishing, fishermen like Capt. Dick Rode, Marathon, Fla., are reporting fish-saving toughness:

"We've tried just about every line available, and new Stren beats them all."

Prove it to yourself.

After a hard day's fishing, compare the smoothness of new Stren to any other line you've used.

Fill your reels with tough new Stren, clear blue or golden. And go get tough with any fish.

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